#### Lebanese premier opens talks in Damascus

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri met in Damascus on Wednesday to discuss the plight of Palestinian evictees and stalled Arab-Israeli peace talks. Officials said the talks were aimed at forging a unified position before a tour of the region this month by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who would seek to get the 15-month-old Middle East talks back on track. Mr. Hariri will visit Egypt after Syria. Reports from Beirut said Lebanese officials may refuse to meet Mr. Christopher on his apcoming tour unless the encounter takes place in their country. Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee Wednesday urged the government to endorse a request by Foreign Minister Faris Bouez to refuse any meeting with Mr. Christopher outside Lebanon. For the Lebanese, holding the meeting within their borders is an important reassertion of national sovereignty following the anarchy of the 15-year civil war that ended in October 1990.



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Syria, Iran and Turkey back Iragi unity

DAMASCUS (R) - The foreign ministers of Syria, Iran and Turkey reaffirmed Wednesday their commitment to maintaining the territorial integrity of Iraq. The ministers, in a statement ending consultations in Damascus, urged Baghdad to comply with U.N. resolutions and international law, but also called for international efforts to minimise the hurden

on the Iraqi people. "The ministers reaffirm the great importance they attach to the preservation of the unity and the territorial integrity of Iraq. Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa said, reading a joint communi

que in English. But he said the ministers, holding their second meeting in three months, "believe that the future of Iraq should be determined by the

free will of the whole people of Iraq on the basis of the principle of unity,

democracy and good neighbourly relations." Mr. Sharaa spoke at a news

conference with his Iranian counterpart Ali Akbar Vetayati and Turkey's

Hikmal Cetin. He said they would closely follow developments in Iraq and would meet again in June in Tehran.

## aunches Bosnia initiative

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — J.S. Secretary of State Warren Interopher said Wednesday the Juited States was willing to join Sex n multilateral enforcement of a seace settlement in Bosnia inhave luding the possible use of milit-

iry force.
Mr. Christopher announced a www.U.S. initiative saying President Bill Clinton "believes it is ime for the United States to become actively and directly engaged in the multilateral effort to each a just and workable soluion to this very dangerous con-

As part of a six-step plan for ending the conflict, Mr. Christopher named Reginald Barthplomew, a career foreign service officer who is the U.S. ambassafor to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), special envoy to deal with the crisis. He said the administration

would be "prepared to do its hare to help implement and enforce" a coasefire agreement "in-Juding possible U.S. mibtary ac-

"This conflict may be far from per shores but it is certainly not distant from our concerns," Mr. Christopher said.

The secretary of state said the president was seeking creation of war crimes tribunal to punish hose responsible for atrocities.
Saying the U.S. government was repulsed by the brutal

"ethnic cleansing" campaign being waged by Serbs against Muslims, Mr. Christopher said: "Our conscience revolts at the idea of passively accepting such

He said Clinton had decided that "the United States will actively engage in the Vance-Owen negotiations, bringing the full weight of American diploma-

"We do not expect miracles but we believe we can make a differ-ence," Mr. Christopher added. Former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and former British Foreign Secretary Lord Owen have led the international mediation effort and produced a plan accepted by some European powers but not by the Serbs, Muslims or the United States.

Sporadic clashes in Rosnia, page 8

#### israel lets lawyers see Arab-Americans

FEL AVIV (R) — Israel, bowing o U.S. pressure, said Wednesday t was letting lawyers see three Palestinian Americans it detained ast month on suspicion of ties to nilitant Islamic groups. An sraeli official who declined to be named said Washington had sent srael two formal complaints since the arrests more than two "!-veeks ago. Israel said last month e had detained U.S. citizens Mohammad Salah, Mohammad farad and Mohammad Omar as aspected activists in Hamas. Salah met with bis lawyer on an. 31. Omar will meet his awyer today, and Jarad will meet ns by the end of this week," the official said Wednesday. The bree were arrested in the occupied West Bank and have ppeared before military courts. They have not been charged.

#### Rafsanjani denies ran aids terrorism

ICOSIA (AP) - Iranian Presient Hashemi Rafsanjani rednesday denied claims that an engages in "terrorism" or is made excessive arms purches. "Although the Iranian peohave been a victim of terrora more often than other counes, certain people in the world I accuse the Islamic Republic terrorism," Mr. Rafsanjani s quoted as saying. The Islamic public News Agency (IRNA) d he told a gathering of foreign lomats and representatives of ernational organisations based Tehran that Iran had been med for purges among dissiit groups active outside the attry. "They have not proved even a single case," isanjani said.

## Washington Israeli troops kill two 15-year-olds in Gaza

## Dozens shot and wounded; girls' school stormed and tear-gassed

(Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot dead two Palestinians and injured dozens in clashes in the occupied Gaza Strip Wednesday, Palestimian sources said.

The sources said two Palestinians, both 15-year-old, were writing grafitti on a wall in the eirat refugee camp on behalf of the Palestinian People's Party, a communist group, when Israeli soldiers opened fire and killed

The deaths brought to 12 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli troops since last Friday. The army confirmed soldiers killed two Palestinians but gave a different account of the circumstances of the incident.

"During an operation of the security forces...a force encountered a cell of masked uniformed meo armed with knives and axes," a military official said.

Liberation Organisation (PLO)

Chairman Yasser Arafat said

Wednesday that U.S. snpport for Israel on the issue of Palestinian

evictees threatens Middle East

line American position enthusias-

tic to implement Security Council

resolutions in many parts of the

world comes to the support of Israel to circumvent these resolu-

tions," Mr. Arafat said in a state-

ment marking the 63rd month of

the uprising in the occupied terri-

Russia

dampens

mats said Wednesday.

Iraqi hope

He warned that the collapse of

"It is regrettable that the hard-

peace talks.

"The masked men threatened the commander of the force with knives and the force reacted by shooting them.

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip said soldiers manning an army post in Jabaiya refugee camp shot and wounded at least 38 Palestinians when a crowd of youths repeatedly stoned them. They said 18 of the injured were under the age of 15 and one of the youngsters was in critical condi-

Iu a separate incident, soldiers burst into a girls elementary school at the camp, apparently after coming under a hail of stones outside, and shot tear-gas inside the school.

Employees at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency clinic said several girls were over-

come by tear gas.

The army said it was checking

American stand in expellee crisis

territories to Lebanon on Dec.

17, claiming they were Islamic

fundamentalist activists responsi-

The U.N. Security Council pas-

sed Resolution 799 the next day

to demand the immediate return

of all the evictees. Other than a

few who have been hospitalised

or returned because they were expelled by "mistake," the

Palestinians remain lodged in a

tent camp oear Israel's self-

proclaimed "security zone" in

the men under threat of sanc-

Israel offered to return 101 of

ble for violence.

southeast Lebanon.

threatens peace talks — Arafat

TUNIS (Agencies) - Palestine Palestinians from the occupied

East Jerusalem, Israeli police fired live rounds into the air and shot tear-gas and rubber bullets at demonstrators who threw stones and burned tyres, police

Four cars were damaged but no one was wounded in the East Jerusalem clash, which hegan when police arrested two youths after an Israeli bus was stoned. A third Palestinian was arrested during the unrest.

Israelis have killed 1.015 Palestinians in the last five years of uprising in the occupied territories, according to a Reuter

Soldiers also searched Wednesday for the assailants of an Israeli vegetable merchant killed in Gaza Tuesday

The dead Israeli, Yehezkiel (Continued on page 5)

"The Israeli-American deal

and the continuation of the U.S.

support for Israel is a serious

blow to the peace process," Mr.

Arafat said io an statement car-

ried by WAFA, the Palestinian

news agency.

He said support for the offer by

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin was "a cover for more

He urged Washington to imple ment U.N. resolutions on the

Arab-Israeli conflict, including

242 and 338, which call on Israe

to withdraw from the occupied

territories in exchange for peace.

expulsions.'



Israeli soldiers Wednesday grab a meutally- handicapped Palestinian boy after a stone-throwing protest in Arab East Jerusalem (AFP photo)

## Majority of Jordan determined to end Arab-Israeli status quo

By Nermeen Murad Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A majority of Jordaoians are willing to switch their support of the Arab-Israeli peace talks to a military solution of the conflict if the talks fail to produce results, a recent academic study indicates.

The study, conducted by Pro-fessor Mohammad Jihad Shreideh of Yarmouk University, also showed that Palestinians and Jordanians are worried over the "concept of duality of leadership and identity" which may result from a union between Jordan and a future Palestinian entity.

In a questionnaire distributed among 1,140 people aged between 20 and above, an impressive 74 per cent said they supported the peace talks (21 per

cent did not); 95.3 per cent ex-pressed their belief that a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict would have a positive impact on the region while 1.8 per cent said they did not. Sixty eight per cent said they believed that they believed the percent and the that a peaceful sertlement is

forthcoming.

Questioned whether they befieve in resorting to a military solution if the peace talks failed 2.5 per cent said they did while 23.2 per cent said they did not. "I think that Jordanians are

saying that they do oot want the continuation of a stalemate in the Arab-Israeli conflict," Dr. Shreideh told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Although sceptical of giving his analysis of the results maintaining that the study was a purely

there was a message in the almost equal percentages between supporting the current peace talks and unhesitantly shifting to the military option if the negotiations "People look at the conflict

from more angles than the political ooe," Prof. Shreideh explained, adding that "economic and social factors, among others, obviously influenced people info supporting the peace talks and believing that its fruits would be beneficial to the region."

It is perhaps this expectation which contributed to a 72 per cent showing in support of the Jordanian delegation continuing nego tiations even if there was no progress on the other tracks. Twenty-three per cent thought

## Ball in London Club court

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Differences among members of the Lon-don Club of creditor banks have postponed the submission of a proposal on settling rescheduling Jordan's commercial dehts, thus relieving pressure on the Kingdom in the short term, official sources and economists said Wednesday. A steering Committee of the London Club failed to table any proposals during a meeting with a Jordanian delegation in London last week and sought more time for consultations among the concerned banks.

"A minority in the group apparently resisted certain. concessions given to Jordan in a draft proposal and this led to disagreement in the steering committee and hence the postponement," said one official

According to another source close to the talks, "the chair (of the steering committee) took note that the arguments (within the panel) touched on some of the basic policies of commercial banks holding Third World debts and therefore mied that the final decision should be made at the management level of the concerned banks rather than within the committee.'

The source said French banks, which carry about \$200 million of the nearly \$1 billion of Jordan's commercial debts, remained opposed to giving Jordan the benefit of the lower interest rates in the market and

(Continued on page 5)

#### "We are looking forward to the tions. U.S. Secretary of State the peace talks "can only mean Warren Christopher, who is sche-American administration to move the plunge of the area onto the io line with its slogans of commitduled to come to the region later abyss of severe tension and an ment to human rights to force the this month to get the peace talks unpredictable instability. Israel expelled more than 400 back on track, termed the offer (Continued on page 5)

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — Russia has moderately softened its policy toing the Gulf crisis. wards Iraq, but not at the cost of compromising on sanctions or implementation of U.N. Gulf war resolutions, officials and diplo-The Russian policy was con-

veyed to Iraqi officials by Igor Melekhov, deputy chief of the Foreign Ministry's Middle East Desk, now oo a visit to Baghdad. "Russia's position is firm vis-a-vis Jraq's," Mr. Melekhov told a

group of reporters Wednesday.
"Russia believes that the situaoon requires that Iraq comply with all Security Countil resolutions. Moscow's policy has dampened

Iraqi hopes of seeking Russia's support to lift U.N. sanctions that are crippling the economy, making the Iraqi currency weaker day by day and producing considerable hardship for the country's 10 million people.

Russia recently softened its bne towards Iraq when it asked for more control over U.S. led attacks. But some officials have said the shift was mainly superficial and intended to appease hard liners who want President Boris Yeltsin to drop bis support for the

coalitico. Mr. Yeltsin bas backed the sanctions against Iraq. The Soviet Union also supported the U.N.backed Gulf war to oust Baghdad

from Kuwait two years ago. Iraq had apparently sensed Mr. Melekbov's specific stand as there was neither a red carpet welcome nor a publicity blitz in the government-controlled media, one of the accessible signais to judge official positions.

(Continued on page 5)

## Aziz rejects appeal for release of jailed Britons

rejected pleas to release two jailed Britons Wednesday, saying that Britain would first have to unfreeze Iraqi assets seized dur-

Michael Whitlam, head of the British Red Cross, said after a meeting with Deputy Prime, Minister Tareq Aziz that Baghdad had spurmed, requests by the jailed Britons' relatives to free

Mr. Whitiam said he offered Mr. Aziz further humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people if Michael Wainwright and Paul Ride were set free.

"He was in oo way prepared even to talk about a deal over the two men," Mr. Whitlam told reporters following an 80-mioute meeting with Mr. Aziz. Mr. Aziz apparently reiterated

The British Foreign Office has reiterated its refusal to turn over the assets until Iraq fully complies with United Nations resolutions stemming from the Gulf war.

Mr. Whitlam accompanied four relatives of the two prisoners on a trip to Baghdad to visit the

ment from the families.

(Continued on page 5)

bis demand, made last week on British television, that the men could be freed if London releases millions of dollars of Iraqi assets.

pair and try to win their release. The relatives, making their second visit to Baghdad's Abu Garaih prison in two days, were not present at Mr. Whitlam's ting with Mr. Aziz, President Saddam Hussein's main foreign policy adviser.

There was no immediate com-

#### PLO reportedly mediating | 14th political party between Iraq and Egypt its isolation after the 1991 Gulf

CAIRO (R) - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is trying to reconcile relations between Iraq and Egypt, strained in the Gulf war, officials said Wednesday.

Mr. Arafat, who was in Iraq last week, brought an oral mes-sage from President Saddam Hussein to Egyptian President Hosni Mobarak, Palestinian officials said.

A senior Palestine Liberation Organisatioo (PLO) official told Reuters that President Saddam had made an offer to Mr. Moharak "for reconciliation ... and for closing the Kuwait file."

Mr. Arafat said last week that President Saddam had made a dramatic aboutface and now sopported the U.S.-hrokered Middle East peace talks, apparently reversing his longstanding opposition to dealing with Israel.

Diplomats said President Saddam might offer to release Kuwaitis detained in Iraq as a goodwill gesture. Kuwait says some 620 Kuwaitis are still held

Arah diplomats said Iraq was

looking for a hreakthrough to end

war which destroyed much of its military might. Two years of U.N. sanctions have crippled its есопотту.

Egypt's response to the Iraqi offer has been cautious so far, the

Mr. Muharak told Egyptian journalists after talks with President Hafez Al Assad in Damascus on Tuesday that Mr. Arafat had conveyed a message from President Saddam asking for dia-

'Arafat is trying to open the doors between Cairo and Baghdad ... he is trying to play a role in restoring relations between states whose relations were damaged with Baghdad during the Gulf war," Mr. Mubarak was quoted as saying in Al Gomhuria

'The experiences of the near past taught us not to take such matters lightly ... we should have a deep and sound evaluation ... such a thoughtful thinking will spare Egypt from taking any hasty act that could harm its interests," he was quoted as saying.

(Continued on page 5)

## gets official approval

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN -- The left-wing Freedom Party brought to 14 the number of political parties now legal in the Kingdom Wednesday when party chairman Fawaz Zouhi was informed of the legal acceptance of the group by Ministry of Interior officials.

The licensing of the Freedom Party gives left-wing parties an edge in the overall count of parties now operating legally in Jor-

Political observers said that while the licensing of left-wing parties — which was initially questioned by the government was also a sign of the fragmenta-tion of the left and not necessarily a reflection of the popularity of socialist or left-wing political thought in the Kingdom.

"The left is too split, too frag-mented," said political activist Yousef Hourani There is no need for seven

left-wing parties. If they joined hands it would he a lot wiser. They should learn from the Islamists," added Mr. Hourani, a

former activist of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

The Freedom Party is led by

former communist Fawaz Zoubi. a veteran political activist who split twice with other leftist groups in the country before founding the new group in the fall of 1992.

After splitting with the Jordanian Communist Party, in which he had held an executive position for several years Mr. Zouhi joined another veteran, Ali Amer. The two politiciaos formed the Jordanian Party for Progress last summer. Mr. Amer had split from the DFLP after Jordan severed administrative and legal ties with the occupied territories in 1988.

After a three-month merge the two political activists decided to go their separate ways. Mr. Amer formed the Democratic Party for Progress io Jordan (DPPJ), about six months ago. Shortly afterwards Mr. Zoubi founded the Freedom Party. The DPPI became the first left-wing

(Continued on page 5)

## Politics, religion and sex — the three do's for JTV censorship

By Stephanie Genkin

Special to the Jordan Times This is the first in a series of articles on censorship in Jordan

AMMAN — Despite the absence of hardcore guidelines determining censorship practices in Jordan, three taboos remain outstanding: religion, politics and sex. While the government continues to set the standard of wbat is acceptable for television, media directors, personnel and "experts" have some measure of autonomy in interpreting what is suitable for public consump-

All forms of official media in the Kingdom are subject to the same censorship regulations.

The finished product of any censored piece, however, depends largely on the judgement of the committee screening the material.

The "code" designed to safeguard the religious, moral and political values of the nation is broad, and therefore the final decision is left to the discretion of the censor. Io the case of television,

censorship practices remain

vague and censors receive no

formal training. Instead, they

are chosen on the basis of

experience, educational and

holding another job in the media industry," explained Mobammad Nawayseh, assistant director at JTV's Channel Advocates of freedom of expression, however, are critical

of the right of any single individual to decide for them what is suitable for viewing, raising concerns as to the validity of Those directly involved with censoring foreign films and

programmes at JTV see things

intellectual levels, according to "We have certain responsithe censorship department at Jordan Television. bilities to our generation and our people. After all, we are a "All censors at the station government-owned TV staare hired from the inside and tion.'' explained Mr. work on a freelance basis. Nawayseh.

> and sisters watching television take into consideration what we want them to see," he added.

"We think of our brothers

Defending the practice and process of censorship, Mr. Nawayseh contends that the current procedure is satisfactory and legitimate.

"One does not need special training to be a censor," he said. "The taboos are clear to everyone. It's not very compli-cated. We know by instinct," he added.

According to Waleed Mohammad, JTV's Englishlanguage news editor, censorsbip guidelines are not essential to his work.

"This is a government television station, and we believe that the news should be consistent with the government's point of view and its national policy," said Mr. Mohammad.

Mr. Mohammad explained that the station does not practise censorship in the oldfashioned sense of the term, in which material considered unsuitable is deleted.

He said that his job requires evaluating the correctness of news segments received by news agencies on a daily basis. "I look to see if a story is credible," said Mr. Mohammad. "Not everything that comes through the wires is credible. Reporters are often oriented towards one side or another and write the story from their own perspective, he added.

News items on the Middle East conflict often fall into the problematic category, accord-

ing to Mr. Mobammad. For instance, when a news segment mentions Nablus as a part of Israel, he explained, it is not used, since it is recognised as occupied Arab

Other problems with material obtained from news agencies arise, which may also be

(Continued on page 5)



Kuwaiti regime.

Despite all indications that

the Kuwaiti authorities have

no intention of pursuing their

complaint, Miss Farhat and her

brother Naim Farhat are press-

ing their case at all levels; their

latest move was an open letter

to the members of the recently

According to the letter

signed by Naim Farhat, a

naturalised American citizen

who lives in Santa Cruz, Cali-

fornia, his father Ismail Farhat

lived in Kuwait for over 30

years with his family and re-fused to leave even after the

Iraqi army took over the emi-

"My father... who served

the Kuwaiti government for

over 30 years, resisted the Ira-

qis, suffering torture for his loyalily to Kuwait," says the

letter. "He was ned up and

assassinated in his own home.

My brother Osama, who

actively worked to resist the

Iraqis, sat tied next to my

father as the Kuwaiti assassin

also killed him. My sister Naimat, who also resisted the Iraqis.

was brutally raped and shot in

the head and left to die."

rate in August 1990.

elected Kuwaiti parliament.

MARI AL ZOHOUR, Leba-

non (R) — The leader of 396 exiled Palesbnians says he has

a long-standing personal score to settle with the man who

threw them ont of their occu-

Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Rantisi

was held for six months with-

out charge from March 1988

after the Palestinian uprising

flared against Israel's occupa-

tion of the Gaza Strip and

camp in South Lebanon.

now prime minister.

Yitzhak Rabin was then

Now I have a chance to get

Israeli defence minister and is

back at Rabin and return bis

gift - embarrass him before

the world," Dr. Rantisi adds

The 45-year-old pediatri-

cian, who admits to being a

founding member of the Isla-

mie Resistance Movement.

Hamas, first introduced him-

times of crisis, negotiating with the Red Cross and offi-

"The day I was supposed to

pied homeland.

West Bank.

Expellee leader aims to

settle scores with Rabin

# sav ve

pir As ha re (Subscribe

were receptive to mediation by Syria amid fears that sustained tension would undermine the delicate stability in the Gulf. They said Damascus, which carned Gulf Arab gratitude for its stout opposition to frag's

he added.

**JORDAN TELEVISION** 

of improved relations. cl. 625383, Tel. Naimat Farhat, unfolds like

The episode, as retold by

On March 2, 1991, a few days after Iraqi forces were forced to withdraw from Kuwait, her brother Osama and a friend were picked up by Kuwaiti police but were released after four hours of inter-

But a Kuwaiti, identified by Naimat as a senior intelligence officer, came to the Farhat house the same evening armed with an official paper, which he said were orders that the family members be killed for "collaborating" with the Iraqi

The officer brushed aside the family's arguments that they were in fact part of the Kuwain resistance and were persecuted by the Iraqi occupation forces. He made Osama to tie up his father and Naimat to tie up her brother, before asking the woman to serve him tea.

Naimat says she was taken to the next room and raped by the man, who threatened to kill the family if she resisted. She was then told to stand with her face to the wall and shot in the head.

As she was losing conscience Naimat also heard the screams of her father and brother and two more shots, which, as it was proved later, killed both

By what seemed to he a miracle, the woman survived and underwent brain surgery in Kuwait and in the U.S., where she managed to reach with help from family members who were already there.

Naimat now walks with a limp and has lost control of her right arm and is undergoing

"It is indeed ironic that my beloved father, brother and sister who all risked their lives to resist the Iraqi occupation even though they were not Kuwaiti citizens would meet injury and death at the very bands of the rulers of the country they remained to protect," says Naim Farhat in his letter, a copy of which was made available to the Jor-

dan Times. "How ironie that they should stay while a cowardly Kuwaiti ruling elite fled from the Iraqis like scared rabbits only to return with guns in their hands and murder in their

hearts?" International human rights organisations have raised the case, along with dozens of similar incidents, with the Kuwaiti authorities, but little action has been taken.

The experience of the Farhats was not different from hundreds, if not thousands, of non-Kuwaitis and stateless Arabs who remained in the emirate during the Gulf crisis.

"If the days of the occupation were terrible, much worse were the days after the liberation of Kuwait," says Ahmad Darwish, a Palestinian who had no choice but to flee the emirate across the border to Iraq after escaping from a Kuwaiti prison in April 1991.

"Bloodthirsty Kuwaitis -including soldiers and officers — were roaming the streets looking for non-Kuwaitis, par-ncularly Palestinians," Mr. ncularly Palestinians," Darwish recalled.

They would storm houses beat up if not kill men, and rape women," he said. "This was something which we did

Victims of post- war Kuwaiti violence still await justice not experience even at the hands of the Iraqis.

In January this year, the Kuwaiti government acknowledged the anthenticity of the Farhat case but said it was unable to identify the perpetrators. But the New York-based Middle East Watch counters the contention saying that "Kuwait has failed in general to investigate these crimes because powerful constituencies in the Kuwaiti army and resistance are being protected."

But that has not stopped Naim Farhat to pursue the case. He has enlisted the support of congressmen and human rights groups and is now trying to get the Clinton administration to do something ab-

"1 want (President Bill) Clinton to pick up the phone" and press Kuwait, Mr. Farhat was quoted as saying by the Washington Post. It is possible that something is indeed done by the Clinton administration, particularly that one of Mr. Farhat's supporters is Leon E. Panetta, Mr. Clinton's budget

#### self to reporters after the Dec. 17 expulsions as just a spokesman for the Palestinians. He swiftly emerged as their leader, addressing them in

with a smile.

cials, and keeping world attention on their plight by constantly talking to journal-

Mr. Rabin will be made to pay dearly, Dr. Rantisi says. The bearded, bespectacled man is well aware his leadership at the rocky hillside camp has probably made him

Rabin and Israeli authorities. He speaks proudly of issuing the declaration starting the intifada along with Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, now jailed.

the evictee most hated by Mr.

be released Israeli soldiers told me: 'We have a gift for you from Rabin. Another six' Life in a camp is not new to him, he says. He was six months of administrative de-tention'," Dr. Rantisi told months-old when his family fled their village south of Jaffa after the state of Israel was Reuters at the evictees cold created in May 1948.

"We were very poor and a religious family. We went to Gaza and lived at a tent camp counting only on U.N. aid. If I had been grown up I would not have accepted that belp," he savs.

After leaving school in 1965, Dr. Rantisi went to Alexandria, Egypt, where he re-ceived his doctorate six years

He went back to Alexandria in 1974 and studied pediatrics for two years. It was a turning point. He became influenced by militant Islamic thinking and met leading Islamic figures

## Hogg describes Israeli expulsions as 'inhumane'

Iran's friction with Gulf Arabs eases

ISRAEL'S decision to deport 400 Palestinians was symptomatic of its "more general failure" to respect human rights in the occupied territories, a British minister rold the United Nations commission on human rights yesterday.

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hundreds of peo-

ple of all nationalines were

brutalised and murdered by

Kuwaitis who went on a fren-

zied rampage through the enti-

rate in the days after it was

liberated from Iraqi occupa-

tion forces in late February/

early March two years ago;

many of the victims who sur-

vived the traumatic ordeal

opted not to talk about it.

hoping to put the episodes

behind them and start a new

life. But a few others could not

live with themselves doing no-

thing about the inhuman treat-

ment they suffered in the

hands of the vengeful Kuwaits.

old Lebanese woman, whose

faiher and brother were mur-

dered after she herself was

raped and shot in the head by a

senior Kuwaiji injelligence

officer, is one of the few who

refused to give up efforts to

bring the culprits to book. She

is not seeking vengeance but

wants justice since she believes

the killings of her father and

brother were ordered by the

Naimat Farhat. a 33-year-

At their meening in Geneva, Douglas Hogg, Foreign Office minister responsible for the Middle East, said the deportations were "illegal and inhumane." Mr. Hogg, speaking on behalf

of the British government, said everyone was concerned by the increasing bloodshed in the occupied territories, especially by reports that 216 children had been injured since the beginning of December and 13 shot dead by the Israeli army.

The Israeli authorities have had five years to learn to cope with the provocations of the in-

By Yousef Azmeh

Reuter

DUBAl - Iran's relations

with its Gulf Arab neighbours

appear to be improving after

months of tension sparked by a

row over three Gulf islands

that straddle one of the world's

main oil routes. Gulf diplomats

"There is an opening," one

senior Gulf diplomat said. "we hope it will succeed."

He was commenting on re-

ports that mediation, principal-

ly by Syria, was making head-

way despite recent statements

from Iran and the United Arab

Emirates (UAE) both reasseri-

ing their claims to sovereignty

Iranian President Akbar

Hashemi Rafsaniani said Fri-

day he was encouraged by re-

cent friendly messages from

Gulf Arah neighbours. "We

warmly shake their hands hop-

Diplomats in the region said

that both Arabs and Iranians

ing this trend will continue."

over the three islands.

tifada, yet the defence forces' record remains every bit as bad, if not worse than before," he

"If the Israeli government wishes to avoid censure from the international community, it must examine its administrative and military practices in the occupied territories, and it must change

Mr. Hogg's views are certain to displease the Israeli authorities. coming as they do less than a formight before a scheduled official visit by President Chaim Herzog. The British demand that the Israelis should look again at their administrative practices can hardly be ignored by Israel.

"There are far too many reports of IDF beatings and wanton destruction of property," Mr. Hogg went on. "The killing of

1990 invasion of Kuwait while

maintaining close ties with

Iran, was alarmed that Gulf

tensions could help ease press-

This view coincided with

what the Gulf states see as a

need to keep alive Tehran's

opposition to Iraqi President

Saddam Hussein, which they

feel could be diluted if Iran felt

more isolated from its other

The Gulf states also see the

need for longer-term stability

to maintain economic confi-

dence in the region, they

Syria had apparently also

persuaded Egypt, which with Syria was the Gulf states prin-

cipal Arab ally in the war to

expel Iraqi forces from

Kuwait, lo ease its war of

Tehran blamed Cairo for

tanning tensions in the region

after Egypt's state-controlled

media painted Iran as an enemy of the Arabs and its

officials hinted that it might be

linked to fundamentalist vio-

The diplomats said that a

recent visit to Tehran by

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al

Sabah was an important signal

Gulf neighbours.

words with Iran.

lence in Egypt.

ehildren is simply appalling." The minister urged that Israel should be made to comply with its obligations under the Geneva convention and that, in regard to the deportees, having taken a sizeable step in the right direc-

solution No. 799.

Mr. Hogg also criticised the Iranian government's recent reaffirmation of its "infamous and outrageous" fatwa against the London-based novelist, Salman

tion, it should now also comply

fully with Security Council re-

It was now almost four years since the late Ayatollah Khomeini had issued his "incitement to murder" the writer and the recent call by senior Iranian figures on Muslims in any part of the world to implement it was

An even more significant

pointer was a visit to Tehran by

a Saudi cabinet minister last

week and a meeting in Riyadh

two days ago between the

Saudi foreign minister and

Iran's envoy to the Jeddah-

based Organisation of the Isla-

conference a week ago Iran

was actively seeking friendly

ties across the Gulf and blamed tense relations on a "devilish"

conspiracy to portray Iran as a threat to Gulf Arabs. "We

have no aggressive intentions,"

Washington has expressed

apprehension about Tehran's

aquisition last year of a Rus-

sian-made submarine, the first to be owned by one of the Gulf

littoral states, saying that it could lay mines in the water-

way and threaten the oil trade.

said that while there was a

potential threat. Iran was far

weaker militarily than Iraq or

Saudi Arabia and had yet to

recover from eight years of war

"It may become a threat in

The Gulf diplomats said an

10 years' time, but it is not one

now," a Western source said.

early settlement of the islands

dispute with the UAE was not

very probable.

with Iraq that ended in 1988.

But regional military sources

Mr. Rafsanjani told a news

mic Conference.

he declared.

"People should realise that this is a human rights issue of great importance and I hope international leaders and organisations will rally behind Mr. Rushdie's cause," Mr. Hogg said, "Iran does no service to its great (Islamic) tradition by its failure to repudiate this incitement to mur-

The widow of an Iranian dissident who had been tortured and killed accused the Tehran government in Istanbul yesterday of murdering her husband.

Members of a Muslim extremsit group, Islamic Action, have been implicated in the killing of the dissident, Ali Akbar Ghorbawhose body was found in a shallow grave near Istanbul last month. His widow, Djamila Islami Ghorbani, blamed President Hashemi Rafsanjani for his death - The Guardian

"Both sides were likely to

keep it on the back burner to

allow a gradual normalisation

of relations," one diplomat

The Iranian Foreign Minis-

try Tuesday confirmed that

Tehran maintained its claim to

the three islands and described

the UAE claim as irresponsible

sovereignty over the three is-

lands is beyond doubt based on

historical, legal and geog-

raphical facts in existence since

a long time ago," said a slate-ment carried by the official news agency IRNA.

It said it was responding to

the UAE Federal Consultative

Council's assertion Saturday

that Abu Musa and the Grea-

ter and Lesser Tunbs were an

indivisible part of the UAE.

virtually annexed Abu Musa,

jointly controlled by the two countries since 1971. Iran

occupied the Greater and Les-

ser Tunb islands under the late

The Tehran Foreign Minis-

try said "Iran considers such

(UAE) statements in a sharp

contrast with its goodwill,

peaceful coexistence and re-

spect for its national

sovereignty."

Shah of Iran, also in 1971.

The UAE says Iran last year

"The Islamic Republic's

and unfounded.

#### MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF.

#### ICJ calls for rapporteur for occupied lands

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) intervened at the 49th session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights stressing the need for a special rapporteur to investigate the human rights situation in the occupied territories. Commenting on the compromise to the expulsion crisis proposed by the governments of Israel and the United States to allow the return of 101 of the over 400 Palestinian expellees. ICJ Secretary-General Adams Dieng stated that this apparent ease of tensions, constitutes, even in the short-term, a defeat of the principles of international law." "Similar to torture and genocide, the deportation of nationals from their homeland is absolutely prohibited in international law, specifically under articles 49 and 147 of the Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilians in Times of War," an ICI press statement said. The ICI, therefore, regretted the attempt to compromise the absolute prohibition contained in the Geneva convention, and relterated in Security Council Resolution 799, that demands the immediate return of all deportees, it said. Stating that grave breaches of the Geneva convention cannot be the subject of any political deal, the ICI explained that the proposed compromise negates the very promise contained in the preamble of the United Nations Charter "to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations...of international law can be maintained." Noting that this proposed compromise to the expulsion crisis is a patent example of how the international community has, for decades, handled Israeli gross violations of human rights and humanitarian law, the ICJ called upon the Security Council not to shy away from seeking the full implementation of its resolutions, and upon the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur to investigate the human rights situation in the occupied territor-

#### Algerian minister gives up speakership

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's new foreign minister, Redha Malek, has given up his post as speaker of the unelected national consultative council, the official news agency APS said Tuesday. Mr. Malek, who was appointed minister last Wednesday, retains bis membership of the High Council of State, the collective presidency which has ruled the country with military backing since January last year, it added.

#### Turk plans to publish The Satanic Verses

CATALCA, Turkey (R) - A prominent Turkish author said Tuesday he plans to try to overcome obstacles to publish an edition of Salman Rushdie's "The Satanic Verses" in Turkey. "I want to publish a translation of Rushdie's book on my own or with a group of my readers and associates," Aziz Nesin, 78, told Reuters at his farm in Catalca, 50 kilometres west of Istanbul. His plan to bring out the book is likely to further damage relations between Tehran and Ankara, already strained by the murders of two secular journalists and an Iranian dissident by Muslim fundamentalists allegedly trained in Iran. Mr. Nesin said the Turkish Writers Association would first have to petition the Turkish government to lift a 1989 ban on the importation and distribution of Mr. Rushdie's book, publication of which led the late Iranian Ayalollah Ruhollah Khomeini to call for Mr. Rushdie's death. Mr. Nesin noted that his plan to publish the book was not new. The writers association had voted to bring out the book four years ago, but never went ahead. "I will publish it myself if the association won't do it." Mr. Nesin, a former president of the association, said. A magazine in an interview with him last month carried his proposal which was quickly picked up by the Turkish press. "I have been receiving increased death threats since the newspapers carried the report," he said. He brushed off a report that an Iranian newspaper, Cumhuri Islami, had urged the Iranian government to extend to him the death decree imposed on Mr. Rushdie. "They can kill me any time they want. There is nothing I can do about that," he said.

## **U.S. dilemma in Somalia:** Who's an honest gunman?

MOGADISHU (R) - Jama Abdi Farrah survived the night but he is getting ready to move in a hurry.

U.S. Marines, rounding up arms to make Mogadishu a safer place for most of its citizens, have also made it a dangerous one for a man with a garage full of construction equipment and some hefty firepower to protect it.
"It was probably a thief

who told the Americans we had weapons here," he says. "In a few hours they will come from every side to rob us." What happened to Mr. Far-

rah illustrates a dilemma faced by the U.S.-led task force of 27,000 men sent to Somalia two months ago to protect famine relief supplies from civil war looting.

Someone tipped off the Marines that Mr. Farrah's business, Tiger Transport, on a main street in southern Mogadishu, held arms.

It was hardly surprising. Almost every Somali with something to protect employs armed guards with an assortment of rifles and sometimes heavier weapons.

Behind the walls of hun-dreds of villas there are machineguns facing the gate. Mr. Farrah was a better armed than most. The Marines found a mortar, three medium machine guns, a rocket-propelled grenade launcher, two assault rifles

They took the lot.
"What appears to be a legitimate business by day could be a place where bandits operate by night," said a Marine sergeant who took part in the raid,

and two pistols.

But Mr. Farrah, who insists he needs arms to protect his property, was distraught. 'Are the United Nations

forces helping us or destroying us?" he asked a visitor. "In Mogadishu we have two kinds of people — the bandits and the businessman. Bandits always attack businessmen when they have no weapons.

"We had 7,000 bandits in prison. When the war came they were all freed annd are all in the streets."

These are common complaints -- one of the main points of friction between Somalis and the foreign

Many Somalis say that bandits have learned to set their ambushes just beyond American checkpoints, knowing the vehicles will have been searebed for arms and the travellers defenceless.

Foreign relief workers can . get licences from the task force for their bodyguards'

Important Somalis can travel with armed escorts if they tell the task force in advance. Several warlords have complained about losing their weapons when they

failed to give notice. Journalists take their

The standard terms of hire for armed guards include replacement of weapons confiscated at checkpoints.

The U.S. command bas laid down and tried to publicise its policies but Somalis find it all rather confusing.

Colonel Fred Peck, spokeman for the U.S. command, says that the task force tries not to confiscate weapons which are for legitimate selfdefence but "it is always a

judgement call." "We could never, ever conceive of a general disarmament here. Possession of weapons is part of the fabric of Somali society.

"Our intent is to keep people from bringing the weapons. out of their homes and onto the streets. When we are ripped off to search a property it usually comes from the neigh-

"If the Marines had found a couple of AK47s they would probably have left them there. But if they find mortars or belt-fed machineguns, they take everything they find."

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#### WEATHER

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The effect of the cold front which affected Jordan in the past lew days will start to decrease gradually Thursday. Winds will be westerly moderate. ireshening at time. In Aqaha, it will be partly cloudy with scattered showers capeted, while winds will be northerly light and sees note.

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Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 2, Aqaba 13. Humidity readings:

Amman 99 per cent, Agaha 62 per

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Dr. Raich Zeitoun	SSSS
Dr. Nidał Al Dableh	87719
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Ferdows pharmacy	77X3
Al Asema pharmacy	6370
Nairoukh pharmacy	6216
Al Salam pharmacy	6367
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Shmeisani pharmacy	63744
Najib pharmacy	4476
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Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	907447
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(directory assistance)	
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ZARQA:
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#### FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Overn Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

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17:15 10:28	Cairo, Aqaba (I
10-20	Colombo (F

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Other Flights (Terminal 2)	MARKET PRICES

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Paris (AF)	Potato : 2507 290 Toesato : 1307 601 Spinach : 2407 180
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#### Majority determined to end status quo

(Continued from page I)

the Jordanians should withdraw. On another set of questions which tried to show how many citizens of Jordan were in support of a union between Jordan and a future Palestinian entity, 54 per cent said they were against any such union while 44.5 said they supported it.

Although a columnist at Al Dustour daily newspaper interpreted this finding as an indication of Jordanian and Palestinian "Likud-like" tendencies, Dr. Shreideh described this analysis as the point of view of the writer

Nothing that the study was conducted in Jordanian cities as well as Palestinian refugee camps, Dr. Shreideh said he believed it was an indication of "both sides' fear of duality of identity and leadership."

"I purposely do not want to come out and give an analysis on this so that it would not be understood that I was looking for particular results," Dr. Shreideh said. But be said that this result combined with his assessment of the people questioned would weigh in favour of concluding that it was fear of one identity overwhelming another or one leadership overshadowing the

He added that since the study was not conducted on East Bank Jordanians alone, it is difficult to conclude that Jordanians "do not want the Palestinians" which was the conclusion reached by Dr. Musa Keilani, the author of Al Dr. Keilani, whose column was

(Continued from page 1)

party to be legalised when it was

But the Zoubi-Amer split was

only one of several which make

up an intricate weh of inter-

faction splits and squabbles which

have marked leftist Jordanian

politics through much of the

eighties and nineties. The Amer

group originally broke away from the DFLP in 1988 only to split

again from the Jordan Peoples

Democratic Party (JPDP), which

is led by Mr. Amer's former DFLP colleague Tayseer Zibri.
The DPPJ backs the on-going peace talks with Israel; the JPDP

does not.

Another notable split in the left

was between Jordanian Com-

munist Party leader Yaccouh

Zayyadin and Issa Madanat,

leader of the Jordanian Socialist

Both Mr. Zayyadin and Mr.

Madanat are veteran political

Democratic Party.

ed on Jan. 16 of this year.

14th political party gets licence

published Wednesday, said that the rejection of any form of unity between Jordan and Palestine by over half of those surveyed was an indication of "the failure of the media institutions ... to form a move towards creating the roots for unity expected of future generations." He also hlamed the Ministry of Education for being unable to create an "awareness" of the benefits of unity in the Arab World. The perception of Jordanians

of the effectiveness of the United States in the Arab-Israeli negotiations also held a few surprises. According to the study, 88.5 per cent of those surveyed believed that American diplomacy was the force behind the initiation of the peace talks while 10.35 per cent did not; 89.12 per cent believed that the United States could pressure Israel into accepting peace while 96.4 per cent believed that Washington would not use that clout if the talks were facing difficulties because of the

Jewish state's position.
The result of the latest American elections, according to 91.4 per cent, is not expected to affect the chances of achieving peace in the Middle East region. Western countries were believed (90.78 per cent) to be in support of U.S.

policies towards the peace talks. Predictably, 89.12 per cent be-lieved that the Arab World can influence international events: 67.81 thought that it would be a 'moderate" influence while 8.07 thought it would be "a little bit effective" and 24.11 per cent believed that the Arab World would be "highly effective."

the then banned communist party.

"The support for the left was

never more than five to seven per

cent in this country; now we have

to split that into seven parties,"

The number of political parties

bcensed to date (in chronological order) is: 1) The Jordan National

Alliance (centrist traditional); 2)

The Popular Unity Party (pan-

Arab/centrist); 3) The Pledge Party (right of centre); 4) The

Islamic Action Front (Islamist);

5) The Future (centrist); 6) The

Democratic Party for Progress in

Jordan (leftist); 7) The Jordan Baath Arah Socialist Party (pan-Arab leftist); 8) The Jordanian Communist Party (communist);

9) The Jordan People's Democra-tic Party (leftist); 10) The Progres and Justice Party (centrist); 11) The Jordanian Socialist Demo-

cratic Party (leftist); 12) The Jordanian Democratic Popular

Unity Party (leftist); 13) The

Reawakening (centrist); and 14)

Mr. Hourani said.

Jordanian ball in London Club's court

(Continued from page I)

insisted on a higher rate. "The French banks argue that a concession given to Jordan would set a precedent which could be cited by their other Third World debtors who owe them tens of billions of dollars," said the source.

"In Jordan's case, most of the rest of the banks were willing to accept the market rates as the applicable interest," the source said, adding that he expected the majority to prevail in the final proposal as and when it is submitted to the Kingdom.

No definite official figures have been released on Jordan's commercial foreign debt after the Kingdom bought back some of it at discounted rates late last year.

Some sources said the figure was about \$1 billion while others said it was closer to \$800

million. Standard Chartered Bank of Britain and the Chemical Bank of the U.S. co-chair the London Cluh steering committee. The American component in the total amount involved was described as insignificant hy the sources.

"Now the ball is in the court of the London Club since the postponement came upon its request," said Fahed Fanek, a well informed economist.

"It also means that Jordan is no longer under pressure from any source to conclude, an agreement with the London Club within a defined timeframe," he added. The Kingdom was supposed

to have reached accord with the commercial creditors before Dec. 31 but the deadline was extended to June 30 with the tacit approval of the Inter-national Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

According to an official source, Jordan and the London Club "are in agreement over most of the key elements in addressing the Kingdom's

"The tussle over interest rates is the only major snag," the source added. "Jordan has been let off the

hook in the short term," a Western observer agreed. "It would be some time before the concerned creditors get together and come up with a compromise proposal, which may or may not be agreeable to Jordan.'

Last week's meeting with the London Cinb took place a few days after the Kingdom scored success in securing \$380 million in pledges from donor coun-tries to help its halance of payments for 1992. The dges were made at a Paris meeting of a consultative group of donors arranged by the World Bank.

Planning Minister Ziad Fariz led the Jordanian delegation which attended the Paris meeting. The team included Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh and Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Deputy Governor Michel Marto.

Mr. Jardaneh and Dr. Marto attended the meeting in London with the steering committee of the commercial credi-

#### Israelis kill two boys

in Gaza

(Continued from page I) Avraham, 50, from Holon in the Tel Aviv area, was shot at close range with three bullets in the chest and abdomen near Khan Ynnis at about 7:30 p.m. (1730 GMT), the army and news re-

An Israeli Arab man from Jaffa who was with Avraham also was lightly wounded in the attack. they said.

Newspapers said the Israelis were attacked by four men as they bargained with a Gaza wholesaler at a market near the beach. The assailants took the unusual

step of speaking to the victim and threatening him before shooting. Waving his pistol in the air, one man asked, "Who here is Jewish?" the Maariv and Hadashot

"Both of them are Arabs, both are our kind," the Gaza wholesal. er was quoted as replying.

Palestinians carry a boy wounded by Israeli gunfire Wednesday in Jahalya camp in the Gaza Strip (AFP photo)

Avraham also said "1'm an Arah" and pleaded for his life. But apparently the men realized he was Jewish and shot him at close range. After the men fled, the Israeli Arab and the Gaza merchant ran to get help.

## Russian envoy dampens Iraqi hopes

(Continued from page 1)

The Baghdad Observer newspaper carried a brief traqi News Agency report on Mr. Melekhov's visit Wednesday without any comment.

That was in contrast to the publicity that 10 parliament members from the small Nationalist Liberation Democratie Party of Russia got when they visited

Russia was fully behind the United Nations sanctions against Iraq and that Mr. Melekhov's to Baghdad.

cidation on Iraq's stand on sanctions and its opinion of the new U.S. administration, diplomatic sources in Baghdad said.

all the Security Council resolutions, said the diplomats. "Only then Russia may be of some help to see that the sanctions are lifted," said one diplomat.

Mr. Melekhov echoed the diplomat's views. "Of course, implementation of all resolutions," he told reporters when asked how many concessions Moscow was willing to offer to Baghdad on the implementation of the resolution, a key factor in deciding if and when the sanctions are to be

"The main purpose of this mission is to learn the position of Iraq's leaders regarding their readiness to fulfill the resolutions of the United Nations," Mideast Desk ehief Vladimir Nosenko in Moscow was quoted as saying. "Russia thinks that Iraq must

Iraq, excluding food and huma-nitarian aid. The United States, Russia, France and Britain also have banned Iraqi military flights in southern and northern areas. Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev reiterated Moscow's backing for the sanctions in

not to take Russia's diplomatic support for granted, Russia called last month for a U.N. reiview of the air strikes on Baghdad after U.S. cruise missiles destroyed a factory near the

Russia could exercise a veto sought such an endorsement.

The attacks in January, aimed mostly at enforcing the southern and northern "no-fly" zones, targeted radars and missiles that the allies said threatened patrol

#### Aziz rejects appeal for Britons' release

(Continued from page 1) Mr. Wainwright and Mr. Ride have been imprisoned for illegally

entering Iraq.
Mr. Ride, a British ehef working in Kuwait, was sentenced to seven years after his arrest at the

border in August. Mr. Wainwright is serving a 10-year term. He was arrested in

May after crossing from Turkey into the Kurdish-controlled area of northern Iraq. He said Iraqi guards let him in. Mr. Wainwrights's mother, Iris, and his sister, Heather Horne, and Mr. Ride's wife,

Julie, and their 10-month-old son, William, left London Sunday for Amman and made the 1,000 kilometre overland trek to Baghdadon Monday. Earlier, Mr. Whitlam told re-

porters there were positive signs he two detainees would be re-

Mr. Aziz said last week Baghdad would show sympathy to-wards the jailed Britons if London agreed to release Iraq's assets frozen since the start of the Gulf crisis in 1990 to buy food and medicine.

Baghdad reiterated its position Monday, calling on Britain to review its policy towards Iraq if it wanted to secure the release of the two men.

In November 1991, Iraqi authorities freed jailed Briton lan Richter after he had served seven years of a life sentence when the British government agreed to unfreeze about \$12 million of Iraqi

The Brinsh government said on Tuesday Iraq's relations with the West would be improved if Baghdad unconditionally released the two men.

assets to buy food and medicine.

#### PLO mediating Iraq-Egypt rift

tion efforts by Iraq would evoke Al Ahram newspaper quoted Mr. 'We hope harmony, love and genuine cooperation prevails in our Arab Nation.'

accompanied Mr. Arafat to Baghdad said the Palestinian leader had, for the first time since the Gulf crisis, begun moves to get the Egyptians and the Iraqis to patch up relations.

found a response — Egyptian or Iraqi — a year ago," PLO Execu-

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climate now is much more conducive with the Iranian danger looming." Many Arah officials believe

Iranian-inspired fundamentalism has grown stronger in several countries, including Egypt and Agleria, because of Iraq's

that has good ties amongst the Arab parties between the two sides. Arafat is aware if there is anyone who can play this role, it's the PLO," Mr. Hourani said. "Iraq's international relations

are on the threshold of change. whether with the passing of time or with the coming of the new administration of U.S. President

lah Hourani told Reuters in an interview in Amman. "But the new page in relations."

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#### activists who spent time in prison for their illegal membership in

Jordan Lelevision (Continued from page 1) confused with censorship, Mr. Mohammad explained.

In a recent speech, Lawrence Eagleburger, the former U.S. secretary of state, denounced Israel's expulsion of over 400 Palestinians from their homes in the occupied territories and at the same time criticised the Islamie Resistance Movement (Hamas). "News at Ten" broadcast only the first part of the statements Israeli Television's English language news, also received in Jordan, included both state-

ments. The difference between the two broadcasts, Mr. Mohammad maintained, is not a factor of censorship, as some people have charged.
"The editing from the source

differs," be explained. Not all stations subscribe to the same news agencies, and therefore reporting on a given topic might vary, he said.
"Consider a 20-second bite

on a speech - that bite isn't necessarily identical in both companies," he added.

In determining moral and religious standards for televi-

sion audiences, censors are regularly required to draw on their instincts, and most often in deciding the appropriateness of "love scenes.

While some kisses are okay, others are not," said Rana Nasser, an announcer at JTV's Channel 2 and a parttime employee at the station's editing department. According to JTV sources,

most bedroom scenes are edited out. Where kisses are concerned. the most pressing question is who is doing the kissing and

how. A married couple, Miss Nasser explained, will be afforded more liberties in the "kissing department" than an unmarried couple.

Acts of violence are also left to the discretion of one of the station's three-person censorship committees.

In interviews with the Jordan Times, JTV officials explained that although shooting is tolerated, blood and guts are subject to editing. What this boils down to is that some methods of killing are "accept-

able" for viewing, while others are not.

The Freedom Party (leftist).

Despite complaints from individuals that the "weeding out" process is choppy and draws attentions to the film's censored segments, the station's editing team argues otherwise.

There are many tricks of the trade, and a variety of techniques are used to edit "ma-acceptable" material without losing minutes from the film or programme, said the station's

In the case of an unaccept-able word, "not everything is translated," explained Miss Nasser. "Sometimes the picture continues with the dialogue. Of course some people will understand English," she said. Other times, however, words deemed inappropriate for the public are omitted through the use of a mnting device, she added.

At times, more than words are considered necessary to delete from the the programme or movie because the scene in general is deemed unsuitable for Jordanian audiences. Yet editors at JTV claim that very seldom are minutes of footage cut from the material.

rare." said Miss Nasser. In cases when the visual aspect of the scene is considered inappropriate, the picture is changed and the dia-

Critics of censorship assert that despite efforts to extract "forbidden" material from television screens, any individual who chooses to view uncut versions of foreign movies can do so without leav-

lite dishes and their decreasing prices, plugging into foreign television is becoming a feasihle option.

Movie enthusiasts seeking unedited versions have several additional options. Israeli, Syrian and some cases Lebanese broadcasts are readily available for viewing, offering a wider range of cut and uncut

And for those determined to watch the "real thing," various embassies around Amman offer free movies.

## U.S. stand threatens talks — Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

respect and implementation of international legality," he said. He also said the United States and Russia, as co-sponsors of the peace talks, are "responsible to sanction Israel if it refuses to

implement U.N. resolutions." In Marj Al Zohour, Lebanon, the Palestinian evictees Wednesday urged Arah states to stand firm against Israel ahead of the Mr. Christopher's visit. The 396 men said they rejected

any phased return home unless Israel first admitted that their expulsion was nnjust. Winds and driving rain soaked their mnddy tent camp on Wednesday, a day after the worst snowstorms since they were expelled. Camp doctors said eight more fell ill because of the harsh

weather. "We demand Arab states stand beside our just causes — the expellee issue and the situation inside the (Israeh-occupied) territories," said their leader, Abdul

Aziz Al Rantisi. Arab leaders are holding a meetings to coordii stand on the problem and the stalled peace talks before Mr. Christopher arrives next week.

Mubarak and Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad discussed the evictees in Damascus Tuesday. Afterwards Mr. Muharak

peace talks to start again. "Arab stands are firm and clear," said Dr. Rantisi. "We will not change our stand even if they

would never expel anyone again. Dr. Rantisi said the U.N.

Resolution 799. was not far away.

Mr. Christopher will try to get the talks back on track.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri, whose government refuses to accept the evictees, left Beirut Wednesday for talks in Damascus on the expulsions and the Arab-Israeli negotianons. He moves on to Cairo Thursday. Egyptian President Hosni

appealed to Israel to solve the crisis caused by the expulsions and thus to pave the way for the

(Arabs) go to the negotiations. Dr. Rantisi said the Palestinians would consider returning in phases only if Israel was forced to denounce expulsions and there were international guarantees it

Security Council should meet soon to force Israel to implement He was optimistic a solution

Baghdad last month. Mr. Melekhov's visit is the first by a senior official of Iraq's former superpower ally since the 1991 Gulf war. In Moscow, officials had said

visit was to make its policy clear Mr. Melekhov is seeking elu-

He is telling the Iraqis that Baghdad should fully implement

lifted.

fulfill these resolutions," he said. "Russia's position in this marter has not changed."
The United Nations has demanded a halt to all trade with

an interview aired Sunday. Bnt he also warned the United States

capital and hit a downtown hotel.

over military actions against Iraq only if another Security Council member, presumably, the United States, sought approval for such a mission. Washington has not

Jordan Times Tel: 667171

#### (Continued from page I)

Asked whether new reconciliaresponses from other Arab states, Mubarak as telling reporters:

The diplomats said the Gulf states were likely to resist any effort to reintegrate Iraq into the Arab World as long as President

Saddam was in power. In Amman, a PLO official who

The PLO would not have

weakening.
"The PLO is the only party

Bill Clinton Another PLO sources added: "The state of total enmity has been broken and the Iraqi presitive Committee member Abdul- dent conveyed to the Egyptians

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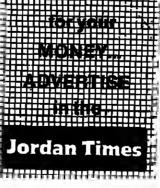
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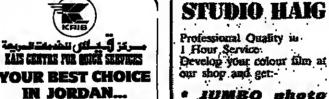
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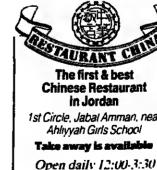
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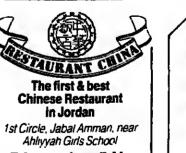
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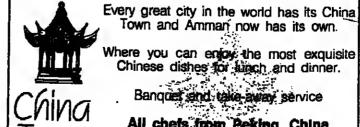




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## Olympic champions Cacho, **Devers** win

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) -Olympic champions Fermin Cacho and Gail Devers posted early wins in the BN Games indoor track and field meet Tues-

Cacho, who arrived from Spain only five hours before the meet, held off Michael Busch of Germany and Mike Michno of the U.S. to win the 1,500 meters.

'It was pretty tough," Cacho said. "My preparations were not

Devers, compening for the first time indoors in Europe this season, edged fellow American Carlette Guidry by one hundredth of a second in the women's 60.

"Instead of sprinting the whole way through I kind of went along and relaxed. I should not have done that," said Devers, winner of the 100 in the Summer Olympics in Barcelona last year. 'Hopefully my next race will be

Devers' winning time was 7.14, just .2 off her personal best. Third went to Marina Trandenkova of Russia in 7:42.

Ben Johnson says he is the best

More than four years after his spectacular fall from grace, a confident Ben Johnson said he was once more the best in an interview published Tuesday.

The Canadian sprinter, who set a world best for the year over 50 metres at an indoor in Grenoble told the sports daily L'Equipe:
"People know that I'm still the

"They love me and they tell me. In Toronto, they stop me in the street and say: "Be confident, be brave. We're behind you."

They still believe in me." Asked if he felt he was the best, he replied: "Yes, because they tell me."

The Canadian, disgraced after a positive dope test at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 when he was suspended for two years, said: "I've always been behind since I came back in the winter of 1991. But now I'm in front again. I dreamed of this so much.

#### Skah threatens to boycott championships

Olympic 10,000 metres champion Khalid Skah is threatening to boycott the World Cruz Country and Indoor Athletics Championships unless the Moroccan Federation pays him a bonus for winning gold in Barcelona.

Skah, twice world cross country champion, was quoted in Belgian newspapers saying he will boycott next month's Cross Country and Indoor Championships unless he gets his promised \$15,000 bonus from the Moroccan Athletics Federation.

He said compatriot Racbid El-Basir was also threatening to boycott the two championships unless he was paid bis bonus for his olympic 1,500 metres silver

Skah, who won the World Cross Country title in 1990 and 1991. was crowned Olympic 10,000 metres champion after a controversial victory over Kenyan Richard Chelimo.

## NBA All-Star squads completed

NEW YORK (R) — Three members of the Cleveland Cavaliers - Mark Price, Larry Nance and Brad Daugherty — were named Tuesday as reserves for the National Baksetball Association All-Star game.

Reserves for the game Sunday, February 21 in Salt Lake City, Utah, were selected in a vote of head coaches in each Conference. Joining the three Cavaliers on

the Eastern Conference team will be centre Patrick Ewing of New York, guard Joe Dumars of Detroit and forwards Dominique Wilkins of Atalanta and Detlef Schrempt of Indiana.

Schrempf, a member of the 1984 West German and 1992 German Olympic teams, will be play-ing in his first NBA All-Star game and is the first European player ever selected.

Also making their All-Star de-buts among Western Conference reserves will be forwards San Elliott of Antonio, Shawn Kemp of Seattle and Danyy Manning of the Los Angeles Clippers and guard Mitch Richmond of Sacramento.

Other Western Conference reserves include guards Chris Mullin and Tim Hardaway of Golden State, centre Hakeem Olajuwon of Houston and swingman Dan Majerle of Phoenix.

Eight reserves were named for the West because Mullin underwent hand surgery Monday and will not be able to play.

The starting teams were deter-mined by fan bolloting. Last week, Shaquille O'Neal of the Eastern Conference's Orlando Magic became the first rookie voted to a starting berth since



Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls seen here bringing two nents his way before passing the ball, got the All-Star to prove for

Jordan led all vote-getters for the seventh successive year and will be joined in the Eastern Conference backcourt by Isiah Thomas of Detroit. Scottie Pippen of Chicago and Larry John-

son of Charlotte were voted the starting forwards. Charles Barkley of Phoenix was the leading vote-getter in the

1985 when Chicago's Michael West and will start at forward with Utah's Karl Malone, David Robinson of San Anto-

nio will be the Western Conference starting centre for the fourth year in a row. Clyde Drexler of Portland and Utah's John Stockton were voted in at guard to give the West a starting five comprised entirely of members of the Olympic gold medal winning U.S.



The Dallas Cowboys were sho-

wered in a blizzard of confetti.

footballs and streamers Tues-

day as about 200,000 fans lined

downtown streets for the city's

first championship parade in more than a decade. "This is

unbelievable," said quarter-back Troy Alkman, voted the

most valuable player in the Cowboy's 52-17 Super Bowl victory over Buffalo. "It means

a lot to us and it's nice to play

in a city where the people take

such pride in their team." Aik-

man and other players and

coaches rode in convertibles

and waved at screaming fans

The Dallas Cowboys cheerlead-

ers also took part, as well as local dignitaries and three mar-

ching bands. "It's taken us a

long time but we're back up

there," linebacker Ken Norton

Participants and photographers at the World Alpine Ski Cham

## Championship marred by bad weather

GENEVA (AP) — European resort officials and commentators hav ruled the weather-plagued World Alpine Ski Championships in Japan a scandalous failure even before they're over.

"All the excitement is gone," former Austrian great Franz Klammer said. Italian television sportscaster Bruno Gattai called the

championship "a scandal of biblical proportions."

Swizzerland's Blick daily, noting that live broadcasts reach Europe in the wee hours, said "ski fans are going to sleep."

After delays marred the first half of the two week event and rain threatened the prestige downbill races, criticism focused on the International Ski Federation, FIS, for allowing a site with known weather problems to become championship host.

Europeao resorts from Norway to Switzerland swiftly offered to take over any cancelled races.

Ski manufacturers have defended the decision to go to Japan, reportedly their largest single market, but admit the schedule havoc could end up hurting the industry.

## Fact-finding committee to probe JBF controversy By Aleen Bannayan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A fact-finding committee who will investigate the disputed second round final match of the First Division Basketball Championship be-tween Al Ahli and Al Orthodoxi, Wednesday got an official mandate to begin its inquest in a bid to resolve the latest controversy by providing an acceptable solution to all parties concerned.

The much disputed Jan. 26

match was won by Al Orthodo-xi. Al Ahli however have since objected to "mismanagement by the referees" who awarded two extra points to Al Orthodoxi, leading to a tie at the end of the second half and warranting a five minote overtime in which Al Orthodoxi managed

to secure the win.
The Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) rejected Al Ahli's objection, and held on to the result of the match, and since Al Ahli bad won the first round match, a third deciding match was required. Al Ahli, however declined to play and appealed to the Ministry of

The JBF later changed its decision and announced a bestof-3 round be played starting Feb. 9. However, this too was put off after the ministry's secretary-general, Eid Al Fayez, met the JBF board Sunday and asked for the factfinding committee to be

The five-member committee includes three former JBF presidents. They are Awad Haddad, Mudar Al Majdoub, and Dr. Moyildin Touq. The other members are Mousa Hudeib and Faisal Malhas. In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Fayez reiterated that the com-



mittee was formed with the "intention of taking the best decision that would do justice to both teams and serve the best interests of the game."

"The ministry observed that the JBF was somewhat hasty in its decisions," noted Mr. Fayez. "As the match was an important one, any decision should have been given more consideration in order to avoid any negative or unwanted re-sults. That is wby the ministry met with the JBF board and recommended forming the investigative committee to further study the problem and bopefully solve it."

Mr. Fayez said that all parties had agreed to the forming of the committee and wbatever decision is reached by it will be final and binding to all.

The committee will meet the JBF, its referees as well as the boards of both clubs.

According to Mr. Fayez the options available are: "Replaying the disputed second match; keeping the result as it stands: playing a best-of-3 round; post-poning the matter until the youth's national basketball team returns from the Asian Championship in Hong Kong in April; cancelling the 1992 championship title match, or whatever is seen appropriate by the committee.

#### HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation GENERAL TENDENCIES: extended conversations with Organising and/or orchestrating complex designs or scenarios is highlighted this morning. Afternoon presents real challenges and conflicts of interest Carlot and Carlotte of interest Carlotte and Carlotte of interest Carlotte and conflicts of interest. Secrets are revealed late evening!

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You do not see how you are going to get out from under some limiting condition but by using your best indement you can make progress in doing so. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

You thought you had a source of action worked out to gain a desired aim but unexpected conditions arise to make you change your GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) It is

important that you use care in whatever you do in the world of outside activity today or tonight since your good standing could be MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 2t) You are not sure about a school of thought under which you are trying to best live and exist so study more deeply for the right

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Your intuition and your judgment can clash today leaving you in confu-sion unless you make a point to take each situation as it arises

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Eventhough you may have

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) There can be a considerable ado in your home because a situation is not explained

with sufficient care so be articulate or question family members. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) In any contacts or communications now before you be sure you study the fine print or be sure you get the real gist of others comments provided.

22) Your environmental conditions have some element coanected with

them that does not give you full

sweep to making the best of your

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Now you think you are going to have a better time than is

in the cards so enjoy simple plea-sures and avoid companions whose tastes are expensive.

surroundings so change them.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You are inclined to commit yourself to some financial or property deal which is not at all to you best interests or you do not have all the facts.
PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) You can have a considerable amount of confusion today and tonight in whatever is of a personal nature in your lile so be watchful, on the aicrt.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Unaspected moon in Scorpio makes it a fine day to follow through a predetermined course. Otherwise, great for weeding or composting the garden, or recycling and clear-ing refuse, and reorganising draw-

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Now you find h possible to have an obligation hold you up for a little while where your plan of action is concerned but you soon find a chance to gain intimate aims.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Being held back by a stubbom person early need not keep you from soon being on your path to achieve big saults in the world of GEMINI: (May 2t to June 21) A

blockage in your work can early occur but soon this is past and you are able to show your special ta-lents where your vocation is con-MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 2t) Don't allow a desire for pleasure to sidetrack you from new and interesting outlets that are awaiting your attention in growth

LEO: (July 22 to August 2t) Don't loiter about home early but get off to find the data you need for handling your practical affairs in a more operative, efficient manner. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Make a point to put off a

communication while you find our in an extended huddle with a close associate just what that person expects in your association.

LIRRA: (September 23 to October 22) Don't take up long time obliga-tions in the morning but find ways to have a better time at recreations with those with whom you are congenial, at peace.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Put aside a personal desire that activates you and think our what you can do to have a greater amount of harmony with your attachment and make it. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) Steer clear from dull tasks and put your energies on what will make your residence a happier place at which to spend.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Avoid contact with disgruntled friend early, then you will be able to spend the day at the various corresponde munication duties. dence and com-

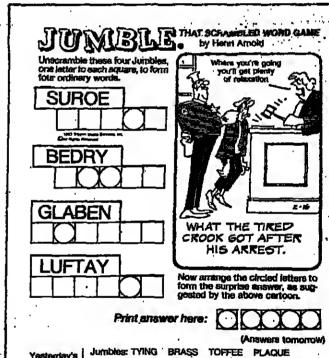
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A worldly matter requires more study before tackling and instead put your attention on im-proving the business and financial espects of your affairs.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A new idea can unwisely take you away early if you allow from a plan you have devised whereby you can gain the personal things that you want.

3 " Bu



"I'm not sure if I have the flu or if I just need some serious spoiling!"



Answer: This is often a good book's equal— ITS SEQUEL

## **Peanuts**









#### **Andy Capp**



#### **Mutt'n'Jeff**



#### **GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH OMAR SHARE & TANNAH HIRSCH

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ Q.1—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

**±107632** ∇9854 ♦K62 **±**5 The bidding has proceeded: North East 1 ♥ Dbl What action do you take?

A.—Nothing in your hand, not even your spade length, suggests that you can stop the opponents from making game. Indeed, your heart length weekens your side's defensive potential. To make it as difficult for the opponents to locate their best contract, jump to three hearts. Of course, that action is preemptive here, and does not promis much at this vulnerability. Q.2-Neither vulnerable, as South

you hold: **±10952** ♥AQ1073 ♦865 **±6** The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ◊ Pass · 1 ♡ Pass 2 Pags ? What do you bid now? A.—Don't rebid two hearts to show that you have a goodish five-

that action pron six-bagger. All you should do for the moment is take a preference to partner's first bid suit. Bid two Q.3-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: **≜K1087** ♥854 ♦J. **4Q965**4

The hidding has proceeded: North East South West Dbi ? What action do you take? A.—Playing five-card majors, it's not even close—zaise to two hearts, both as a mild preemptive action and to tell partner you have some defensive values. It is more difficult if you play four-eard majors, but on balance the raise should still be

right,

◆A106 ♥10953 ♦K8 ◆KJ109 The bidding has proceede South West North Pass Pass 1 ♥ What do you bid now?

A.—In support of hearts your hand is surely worth a full opening bid. That makes your choice very -jump to four hearts. Thre hearts by a passed hand would be only invitational, and you don't want to risk missing a vulnerable Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you

Sen Luis —' 27 Folk song 31 Woe word 33 Auditor

43 Thought 44 Assistants 45 Lime or lemon

51 Ocean

phenomenon 55 Not worth a —

60 Register: var. 61 Son of Eve

63 Den 64 Platitudinous 85 Hindu princese 95 "— of Capri" 57 Pulsed 68 Mets' stadium 69 Punive look

DOWN 1 Erode 2 Rabbit

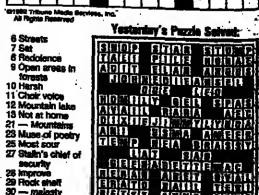
4 Turn to water

VK42 ◊AJ98 4J876 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 2 🛊 1 NT Pass

What action do you take? A.—We feel you owe partner another bid and, since the auction marks North with a six-card spade suit, it's a close choice between three spedes and two no trump with our vote going to the latte because it gives partner room to make another descriptive bid. Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South 

The hidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 NT Pass 3 4 Pass What do you bid now? A.—Even if you play that your no-trump range is 15-17, we don't think this square hand is nearly good enough for a cue-bid of four dia-monds. We would simply raise to

## THE Daily Crossword by Valoritina Barne ACROSS 1 tota 5 Therefore 9 Persons non14 Every 15 Student 19 TV series 17 Length times width 12 Headwear for The Saint 19 "Ad — per zapera" 20 Sequois (with "The") (with "The") 24 Piquancy 26 "The Bridge of 36 Arab chieftain 37 Demi 38 Part of the leg 39 Claire Bloom movie 42 "Picnic" autho

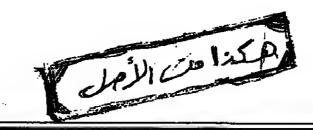




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57 Loceen 59 African

# Veekenaer



Published Every Thursday

## Artists trek between 2 worlds

## Arab-American artists blend cultural experience with Western techniques

Curt Ryan and ial to the Jordan Times

MAN — Can a painter ure the Arab identity and ral experience through use of Western artistic niques? dan's growing artistic com-

ur convincing answers to question are currently on ay at the Abdul Hameed nan Foundation Gallery. Arab-American artists ared in the exhibition e that a creative mind effectively blend the and influences of two different worlds.

thile the featured artists leve this synthesis with petence and finesse, the culty of this venture ild not be underestied Yet as Arab-Amers, all four have benefitted n an intellectual and artisdevelopment emanating dual sources. Drawing oth Arab and Western tities, each artist proes a cultural merger in her

We deeply believe that should have no boundexplained Suba Showho brought the exhibitogether. Recognising tional endeavour, Mrs. Shoman believes that not only will it broaden the public's artistic horizons, but perhaps more importantly, the works will stimulate and inspire Jor-

munity. Each artist brings a unique approach to the canvas, but all share an interest and commitment to abstract art.

In addition to an Arab-American identity and a firm commitment to abstract art, Suha Noursi, Afaf Zurayk, Helen Khal and Ghada Jamal also share the experience of being women painters in an art world traditionally dominated by men. Viewed together, the artists' works highlight the eclectic quality of abstract art.

Inspired by the landscapes of her native Jordan, Suha Noursi exhibits the skills of an artist strongly influenced by two easily recognisable European painting move-ments. At times, she brings images of French impressionism to her work, while in other instances her style is clearly influenced by German expressionism. And a few of the paintings in her collection

the exhibition as an educa- reveal a fusion of the two schools.

Despite the European influences imbedded in her work, largely produced in Washington, Mrs. Noursi's paintings are steeped with nostalgia for the scenery of a country never far from her thoughts. The viewer does not have to be acquainted with rural Jordan, however, to appreciate her ability to depict charming villages, open fields, and the beauty of

"When I exhibit in the United States, some people ask me where the landscapes are from," said Mrs. Noursi. Some think of the American southwest, while others are reminded of distant places, the artist added.
Uninhibited in her use of

colour, Mrs. Noursi's works combine vibrant tones with broad, swirling brush strokes. The effect conveys natural motion, and as a result, none of her landscapes have the static quality of a still life.

Now, after twenty years, Mrs. Noursi has returned to her roots to continue her artistic career in Jordan. However, Amman's art world today has vastly expanded since she last lived in Jordan. While some people are disappointed in the sparse number of artists based in Amman, Mrs. Noursi feels otherwise.



"Since I left Amman, there are so many more artists, she said. "I keep meeting and seeing new people. Considering the size of the place, there are quite a lot (of artists),

he added. While Mrs. Noursi is impressed with the significant expansion of Jordan's art scene, she said that the development of individual artists is less than even.

"There is a wide range of art here in Amman. However, some exhibitions are disappointing and some are wonderful," Mrs. Noursi

Approaching abstract art from a different angle, Lebanese American artist Afaf Zurayk starts with a watercolour base, which serves as the foundation of her collection.

In ooe series of her paintings, the watercolour wash stands on its own. In another set, Mrs. Zurayk uses the watercolour as background for ink drawings featuring fine, distinct lines.

Often sparing in her use of colours, Mrs. Zurayk tends to favour dark hues, bleeding into one another. A few of

One of the paintings on display by Arab-American artist Suha Woursi her paintings, however, mark war," she writes. dramatic departure from

their more reserved countermarking stages of the conflict parts. Distinguishing this set comprise a statement about of paintings, an explosion of bright red contrasts sharply with the stayed background. Also of Lebanese origin, Helen Khal uses an abstract art form for the study of emotions. Her experiments with colour and her attempts to get in touch with the senses often play off one another. Explaining what stimulates her artwork, Mrs. Khal

"To make of colour an oasis for the emotions; to create a presence that may be entered visually, and through that sense of sight find respite

from the jarring realities of an everyday world where, serenity lies hidden." Most of Mrs. Khal's can' vases are dominated by only few colours, each designed to trigger a different emotional response. For Mrs. Khal, abstract use of bold colours creates an environment in itself. In the artist's

own particular world." The fourth artist featured in the exhibition, Ghada Jamal, is also a Lebanese-American. Her collection is preoccupied with abstract images of the Gulf War. Like many Arab-Americans, Mrs. Jamal was deeply disturbed by the event. As a painter, she used the canvas to express her distress.

own words, "each colour has

its own climate and creates its

"Overwhelmed by the events in the Gulf arena, constantly bombarded with conflicting information and terrifying video images of destruction, it was necessary to process all this raw material and make art about the Three series of paintings

war in general. Referring to the early stage of the bombings, Cloudburst Series includes abstract aerial landscapes with blue skies invaded by the modern techoology of destruction. Lines and shapes float across the canvas, to depict the diagrams used for precision

In the next set, entitled In The Storm Series, Mrs. Jamal alludes to the brutality and horror of war. In the final series, After The Rain, she considers the aftermath of the Gulf War and the effects of war in general.

While also cathartic, her work is no less an invitation to her viewers to join her in contemplating the role of war and violence as a means to settle differences. For Mrs. Jamal, "there is no morally just war. All wars are bad."

While their choice of subject matter differs, the four artists featured in the exhibition prove, each in her own way, that art need not have boundaries. They also drive home the point that abstract art requires sophisticated skills and techniques. Both the public and the artistic community will benefit from a visit to the Gallery to see the current exhibition which will be on display until Feb.



Watercolour painting by Afaf Zurayk

## Bloomers and bleepers of our Davis Cup team

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

of the paintings in the Cloudburst Series

HOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

e what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be

ticized anyway - Eleanor Roosevelt, U.S. statesman and

Let us be happy and live within our means, even if we

The cruelest lies often are told in silence — Robert Louis

Not life, but a good life, is to be chiefly valued — crates, Greek philosophier (about 470 B.C.-399 B.C.).

A sound mind in a sound body is something to be prayed

r — Juvenal, Roman lawyer-satirist (about 60-140 A.D.).

\* The to borrow the money to do it with - Artemus Ward,

S. revolutionary commander (1727-1800).

venson, Scottish writer (1850-1894).

st lady (1884-1962).

OW that the first round of Davis Cup tennis matches has ded in a disappointing 5-0 loss by Jordan to Iran, an ensive and serious effort is needed to prepare our team. avoid another defeat in their upcoming matches against alaysia in April.

dowers; to addition to training the team properly, all critical parties have to get their act together to have an around successful event that will avoid the shortcomings snags one could not help but notice during the past

We observe the following in this regard:

✓ \* There was no concerted effort or publicity campaign to people's attention to the fact that the Jordanian team of the playing against Iran — in Amman. The Davis posters regarding the event were ready by the night of The posters regarding the event were ready by the night of the process on the beginning of the three-day. posters were seen anywhere about town.

Prior to the matches the Iranian team practised twice All the sports palace court — venue of the Davis Cup es; After two days of training Iran's team administra-Mr. Abbas Golshani, was overheard asking Internaial Tennis Federation (ITF) referee Jeremy Shales
out "the well kept secret" of "where the Jordanian team practicing." Noted Mr. Golshani: "We have been ning there day and night and the court is closed when finish practice." Mr. Shales of course replied "you are ning at the only court they have." A surprised Mr. Ishani remarked: "Then they are not training!"

☆ Mr. Shales did not sit idle on the days prior to the competition as snowy weather and "other little arrangements to take care of" prevented him from visiting some touristic sites. Mr. Shales visited the Sports Palace court to take a close look and explain where the event's banners and posters were to be properly placed. However, after he gave his instructions to a young man, the referee came back two days later and found out that someone else (and not the young man he had specifically explained everything to) was doing the required job and in a totally different way. To save himself the trouble of explaining the requirements again, Mr. Shales ended up putting the specified banners and other little arrangements up himself.

★ One of the biggest mix-ups happened on the day of the

ill-fated doubles match Saturday. After Jordan's Hani Al Ali cramped in his singles match on Friday, Jordan's Davis Cup team officials apparently decided that Faris Al Azzouni would replace Ali and partner Imad Abu Hamda in the doubles match. The ITF referee was informed of the change. Later on, Abu Hamda said he preferred not to play as he would be exhausted for Sunday's singles match. The ITF referee was therefore informed that Laith and Faris Al Azzouni would play for Jordan. The referee in turn notified the Iranian team of the change. However, both the referee and the guest team were surprised when Abu Hamda and Faris Al Azzouni appeared at the court saying the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF) had decided they would be playing after all. The ITF referee refused to accept the last minute change, as Davis Cup rules stipulate that any change to the doubles team required an hour's notification. The JTF officials had failed to do this and the match was postponed for 20 minutes while Laith Al Azzouni went in search of tennis shorts.



Jordan's number one tennis player Hani Al Ati (left) plays Iran's Mohammad Reza Tavakolli in the 4th match of the Davis Cup tournament held in Amman (photo by Abdullah Ayyoub)

☆ Hopefully, not all observations of the Davis Cup tie are disappointing. The Iranian team thanked their Jordanian hosts for their warm reception, hospitality and efforts to make their stay an enjoyable one. The Jordanian officials did not only warmly welcome their guests after they arrived in Amman, they actually sent two cars to Syria to bring the delegation to Amman after their Damascus-Amman flight was cancelled.



This week's diary is more about reactions to earlier diaries than on new acts and actions on the sidelines of politics and

WE BEGIN WITH THE BEGINNERS: On the floor of the Lower House of Parliament. Last week or a couple of weeks ago (Readers should check facts for themselves for once), the diary reported that some deputies were trying to lock horns with the government over the latter's policy of appointing civil servants. Those deputies accused a number of their colleagues, who are doubling as ministers, of using their official powers to exchange appointments for votes, i.e. of practising nepotism. As if in reaction to this duel. some 40 members of the House soon afterwards put their signatures to a petition indirectly calling for Jordan to unilaterally bust the U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq. When push came to shove in the second match, however, a number of the 40 honourable gentlemen who had signed up either did not make it to the session where a vote was to be taken on the proposal, or changed their minds completely. A majority (36 out of 70 members present) voted against the busting of the sanctions' proposal. Now, the cause for the change of mind — or heart — was initially rumoured to be that the 40 (or at least 36) deputies, who did not originally endorse the proposal, did eventually show up in force to defeat and humiliate the opposition. Whether that was done out of their own convictions or at the behest of the government is not clear. What is for certain, though, is that a prominent lobbyist for the Iraqi government had intervened and pleaded with the original signatories to change course on the proposal lest Jordan and Iraq suffer together, according to one report. One London-based Arabic newspaper did not fail to mention the name of the lobbyist. "He" is Nouri Ismail Liweiss, Iraq's ambassador to Jordan. But it ascribed to him a different role in the affair from what is reported here. Time will tell who is the more accurate amongst the reporters.

\* \* \* \* \*

AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME: The diary also wrote about the director of the National. Aid Fund whose boss, the minister of social development, reportedly tried to fire him but did not succeed due to heavy intercession on his behalf. In that time, the diary spoke of the speaker of the Lower House, Dr. Abdul Latif Arabiyat, interceding with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker to prevent the dismissal of a fellow Muslim Brotherhood member from his powerful job, which in theory could be used to buy votes back from needy voters who benefit from aid by the fund. But as it turned out, the report was inaccurate, since, according to very well-informed sources, no such contact between the speaker and the prime minister had taken place on this particular issue. How Dr. Farouk Badran kept his job despite Minister Amin Mashaqbeh's proven wish to get rid of him remains a mystery.

\* \* \* \* \*

STAYING THE DISTANCE: Or remaining on course, in the long-running handicap race between the parliament and the government is difficult all right, but the relationship between the two top-weight distaffers is too important to ignore by the journalists. The Jordan Times recently wrote an article predicting that a cabinet reshuffle would come when the time was right, maybe at the end of Parliament's regular session in late March or early in April. That part of the story is so far holding up, but, acco plugged-in sources, the government is expected to lose only 12 of its members and not 16 as this newspaper had reported. A review of calculations by the diary, however, quickly reveals that both sides are in fact wrong. If the 10 minister-deputies decide to take their candidacies back to the voters, and another two ministers, we know of, want to try their luck and run for Parliament, then the total of dropouts from the cabinet would be 12, just as the government insiders have it. But if you add to that number the minister who has been trying to leave his post for nearly two years now, and the other who the public at large agrees should have left a year ago, the dropouts will be 14 rather than just 12. Somewhere in the middle, as would be expected from this government anyway.

\* \* \* \* \*

END OF HISTORY: To go back, if only briefly, to direct reactions to past diary items, we have to tell the story of the ubiquitous Fahed Al Fanek, the well-known economist and columnist, who had faced some difficult problems with the Muslim Brotherhood Movement's leadership over the tone and substance of his critical articles. A fortnight ago, the Brotherhood's mouthpiece. Al Rabat, published an unsigned commentary in which the writer launched a blistering attack on Fanek's person prompting him to consider a libel suit against the weekly newspaper. Meanwhile, the outspoken columnist, thinking that three years of democracy would be enough for his colleagues in the media to show solidarity with a fellow hack, wrote a letter to about 25 editors and writers soliciting their backing and support. Few actually showed interest, but not necessarily in the way Dr. Fanek had hoped. Others, out of their commitment to stay away from potential trouble, continued writing about the problems of the world at large and never tackled a local issue, much less Dr. Fanek's feud with the Brotherhood. That was painful enough for him, but apparently nothing was as painful as the response of a fellow columnist at his own Al Ra'i newspaper. The latter seems to have felt it his duty to write back to Dr. Fanek explaining why he was not going to defend him. It is really simple. "You, Dr. Fanek, are a Christian," the fellow columnist wrote. "Al Rabat, on the other hand, represents the Islamists. And so, I do not want to be involved in a matter between two religious sides.

\* \* \* \* \*

IN TWO MINDS: Finally, the most schizophrenic reaction to any diary item has come not from the Department of Interior or censorship, but from the Foreign Ministry. To the criticism that the consular section of the supposedly most sophisticated ministry sent late and clumsy notices to families of Jordanian citizens who die abroad, came two reactions. Representatives from that section called to protest and explain. The other, more politicised wing of the ministry, made similar calls but to congratulate and express agreement on what we said. "If and when a Jordanian dies abroad, his or her family is entitled to a personal visit by our people," one of the more refined diplomats said. "I agree that posting an advertisement in local newspapers, to the effect that the family of X citizen should come and see us for an urgent matter is the worst message we can send."

Nermeen Murad

#### By Jean-Claude Elias

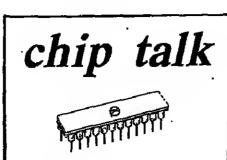
If the quantity of optional equipment a modern car can be fitted with often leaves the client puzzled, a Personal Computer (PC) can receive an ever greater quantity and a variety of additions.

A basic PC configuration is made of the computer enclosure, a monitor or screen, a keyboard, a hard disk, one or two floppy disk drives and usually a mouse. Then, and only then, the fun starts first with a very long list of small add-on electronic boards called interfaces. These can be installed, literally inserted, inside the PC enclosure. Each interface is designed to serve a specific purpose. Fax card. M1D1 music card. Modem card to communicate with other computers on the public telephone network, video card to control your VCR or connect your video camera, the list would be one-mile long.

Then comes an equally long list of equipment called peripherals in computer language. Peripherals are not installed inside the PC main unit. They remain external devices, connected through various cables to the PC. The most commonly used peripheral is the printer. They come in all sizes and colours these days: Dot-matrix, lasers, link-jets, etc... Les known peripherals are the document scanners, which look like a small personal photocopier. The document, often an A4-size sheet, is inserted in the scanner which reads it via an optical system, and then feeds the document's image into the computer's memory. The image obtained can then he processed as the user wishes: Re-sized, cropped, saved on disk, merged with a text or

simply reprinted. The scanner also allows the use of OCR (optical character recognition) techniques, assuming you have a word processing programme, a scanner and a sheet of paper containing a text which can be either typed or even hand-written. OCR is a software that can read the text on the sheet once it is inserted in the scanner, "understand" the words, and produce a text that you can edit in the word

processor. No need to re-type the words on the sheet. For all those who have a lot of important data on their hard disk, a magnetic tape streamer is a must. This device lets the user back up - copy - the data from the hard disk and keep such copies on inexpensive tapes for archival and security purposes. Beyond back up, when no fixed hard disk, however big it is, is enough for your storage, the "removable hard disk" cartridge (typically 88 MB — eighty eight .million characters - per cartridge) represents the



dream solution. That is before shifting up to the ultimate luxury in storage: The optical writeable-erasable laser disc with 650 MB per disc. The latest, though not the most expensive craze, is the "floptical" disk drive: A unit that gives 21 MB of storage on special 3.5" disks, and allows at the same time the read and write on regular magnetic 1.4 MB, 3.5" diskettes.

An often neglected option, erroneously considered by most as a luxury, is a high quality monitor. Users tend to measure the performance of a screen by its resolution only. which is the number of the dots that constitute the words and drawings on the monitor. The higher the number, the better the display is. While standard, commercially available screens feature excellent resolution, they still can be differentiated by other characteristics such as interlacing. refresh rate and emission level, to name only the simplest. An interlaced monitor displays the even-numbered lines it scans in one sequence or cycle. Then the odd-numbered ones in another. At the high speed this is done, the human eye only sees one image. But with prolonged exposure this causes stress and weariness. Non-interlaced screens scan all the lines in one sequence and are ohviously healthier for the eyes, though not for the pocket. The refresh rate is how often the same image is "projected" on the screen. Sixty times per second is considered low, seventy five is a better rate and ensures a stable display.

Finally new low radiation emission monitors are becoming more and more in demand, and a pre-requisite now in Scandinavian countries.

By the time a PC user has picked up a certain number of interfaces and peripherals, he or she might discover that the total investment has become much more important than the initial price of the main PC unit, but the result is often a rewarding and well performing system.

## The brighter side

#### By E. Yaghi

As part of a series of resolutions made for self-improvements, I've decided to be more optimistic about life. Hence, when someone tells me, "did you hear the latest about the Palestinian deportees? Israel has determined to return 100 of them and leave the rest to linger, languish, starve and freeze in the icy snow of a barren wasteland!"

I answer: "Gee, that's too bad, but hey, no problem. I've resolved that the U.N. is a joke and no matter, as long as I'm warm sitting in my house close to the heat and have running water plus television, radio and my daily newspaper, then things can't be that bad, can they?"

This is sheer optimism! I'm going to try not to be pessimistic and take a good friend's advice to love everyone, even those I hate. Consequently, whenever I watch the evil shenanigans of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin on the news, I try to mutter such complacent phrases as, "it must be tedious to be so atrocious and repugnant! I'm glad I'm not in his shoes!" And then I smile because it's so much better for my health and prevents impending complications like high blood pressure and

Recently I read about some Iraqi children who were dying of cancer due to radiation which was caused by thousands of tonnes of bombs dropped by the coalition forces during the Gulf War. But I don't become apprehensive since Iraq is far away and I don't know those kids anyway because they're not mine. And after all, isn't America the "hig brother" of the Middle East and kindly looking after our better interests? I try not to dwell on the petro-dollars that dance in the eyes of such benevolent executives of multinational corporations like George Bush and instead wonder about amebas who have no permanent cell organs or supporting structures and what distress they must suffer because of their situation.

Whenever I see Bosnian children who are wounded from a senseless war or little orphans who have to fend for themselves or ahandoned babies. I try to look on the bright side and exclaim, "Oh how cute little children arel" Of course, I don't mention that leg that was amputated or the long scar running the length of the child's stomach. But because I am an optimist and am done with cynicism, I go

out and party instead! Besides, I've done my share of helping the Bosnians. I sent a box of used clothing so my conscience is clear and now I sleep soundly at night knowing I played a big part in

alleviating the suffering of others.

Well, how about Somalia then? I gave three cheers that after much starvation and no rich Arab country offered any substantial help, the "super heroes" rushed in to restore peace and order. I really did my best for the Somalis. I sang every day the chart breaker, We Are The World, and I'm sure that my efforts went a long way to feed and comfort the hungry. As for those who did die of hunger, I shed one whole tear to express my sympathy for them.

stricken in Jordan, immediately I go to my refrigerator to check if it is well-stocked with food and comment: "There. should be a lot of roses this year, we've had so much

the dark polluted waters of Al Khirbet Al Soda. They have that extra special flavour and added tang! The price of bread has gone up too, but I've decided to overcome this what it used to a few years ago, there is a lot of unemployment and an increase in crime (remember Abu another 140 years. My how time does fly!

The other day I attended a funeral. Everyone was sad and crying, but not me, (grammatically "I") for now I m an optimist, so I cheerfully grinned and said in the most consoling words I could think of to a relative of the deceased: "Well, here today, gone tomorrow. We've all

If he didn't appreciate my attitude, that's his concern, not mine. I'm a newly made-over non-pessimist and can't be bothered by such trivial matters as life and death. After the funeral, I went home in complete nonchalance, had a nice meal and a good hot cup of tea and noted in thoughtful retrospect: "I'm glad it wasn't me!" - (another gramma-

Am I being shallow? Not all all! I'm turning over a new leaf, and simply being realistic and am finished with pessimism. At any rate, there's no room for philosophical thinkers (who get stoned anyway) in this husy hectic world. So when someone says to me: "Did you know the hole in the ozone is getting higger and the rain forests are being chopped down and destroyed?"

future - if there will be one!

## Umm Qais -village of eternity

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

tained civilians, with re-

from 40 to 500.

Saint Vincent.

Sunday, Feb. 14

ported death toll ranging

1797 - British fleet under

John Jervis and Horatio Nel-

son defeat Spanish off Cape

hy treaty to United States.

rivals of Al Capone gang in Chicago. Illinois, are mur-

dered in garage in what be-

comes known as "Saint

1943 - Soviet forces re-

1978 — U.S. government

announces plans to sell bil-

lions of dollars worth of arms

to Egypt and Saudi Arabia as

well as to Israel. saying it will

maintain military balance in

Yasser Arafat's mainline

group in Palestine Liberation

Organisation are killed in

Cyprus when their booby-

1798 — Roman Republic is

proclaimed by French after

capture of Rome, and Pope

Pius VI refuses to surrender

temporal power and leaves

1806 — Franço-Prussian

treaty against Britain, where-

hy Prussia closes her ports to

many reach agreement on

boundaries between French

Congo and Cameroon.

1894 — France and Ger-

trapped car explodes.

Monday, Feb. 15

Rome for Valence.

British ships.

1988 — Three officers of

Middle East.

Valentine's Day Massacre.

capture Rostov from Ger-

mans in World War II.

1893 — Hawaii is annexed

1929 — Seven hoodlums,

1970 — Israeli air raid on

scrap metal plant in Egypt

1974 — Alexander Solzhe-

nitsvn. Soviet Nobel Prize

winner, is arrested at his

1991 - Kremlin says War-

1992 — U.N. Secretary

1633 — Italian astronomer

1861 - Francis II of Na-

1945 - Allied forces cap-

1968 — Ten thousand U.S.

troops are in process of being

transported to South Viet-

nam on speedup basis as

fighting increases in that

proclaim separate adminis-

tration in Turkish-occupied

1989 — Soviet Union's

Red Army leaves Afghan

capital of Kabul in ceremony,

leaving behind handful of sol-

1990 — Britain, France, Soviet Union, and U.S., plus

two Germanys announce

two-stage plan for talks lead-

ing to German reunification.

troy hunker in Baghdad that

allies identified as military

site, but apparently con-

1991 -- U.S. planes des-

northern part of Cyprus.

1975 — Turkish Cypriots

ture Budapest, Hungry, in

Galileo arrives in Rome and

is detained by Roman Catho-

ples surrenders at Gaeta to

saw Pact will dissolve its

military structure by April.

General Boutros Ghali opens

peace talks aimed at reaching

ceasefire in Somalia.

Saturday, Feb. 13

Giuseppe Garibaldi.

lic Inquisition.

World War II.

country.

kills 70 civilians.

Moscow apartment.

#### By Dr. Fathieh Saudi

SUDDEN enlightenment... The sharp edge of the horizon emerges from the ofive grove-covered mountains that loom on both sides of the old road. My feel tingle, touching what I feel as a land of fertility. With the setting of the sun, the pale sulphur light becomes sprinkled with lilac, the air turns soft, and the village of Umm Qais takes shape. So rare are such places in the world that teem with

fertility. Here I feel at one with Mother Earth.

A iew metres away is the sun-washed gold rock of the Golden Heights. To the left, Lake Tiberias hemmed in by its own blue borders. In my childhood I drew so often Lake Tiberias, but I never saw the reflection of its colours on my face. To the right, the Yarmouk River meanders and the land of Palestine unfolds.

My Arab identity swells up and that map now seems as if it had been etched into my palm.

How could I explain the source of this charm and the magical pulse of Umm Qais?

Thursday, Feb. 11

1531 — King Henry VIII is

1798 — French forces take

1929 — Lateran ircatv

establishes an independent

Vatican City. 1944 — U.S. carrier planes

strike heavy blows against

Japanese positions on

Eniwctok in Marshall Islands

in Pacific during World War

1958 — Tunisia informs

1963 - United States rec-

1990 — African National

ognises new government in

Congress leader Nelson Man-

dela released after 27 years in

1991 — Iraq fires two Scud

1992 — Security forces

1899 — Germany buys

Pacific islands of Marinas.

Caroline and Pelew from

1912 — The last Manchu

dynasty emperor abdicates in

China and provincial republic

1953 — Britain and Egypt

1956 - Soviet Union

reach agreement on Sudan.

warns that dispatch of U.S.

or British troops to Miudle

East will violate United Na-

arrest 4 Muslim guerrillas and

confiscate weapons in

South African prisons.

Iraq after revolt.

missiles at Isruel.

Friday, Feb. 12

is established.

tions Charter.

Algiers.

France that French warships

no longer can use Bizerta.

recognised as supreme head of the Church in England.

Rome.

Umm Qais is part of humanity's history and roots, a place of hirth, living and dving with grace. Peace is permeating the mind, the body relaxes, meeting the soul. Suddenly night falls and all borders disappear. The city of Tiberias takes on life and small lights glimmer here and there. I have one wish only — that my hands touch Tiberias

After a few days in the village I discover that Umm Qais has always been special. In the 4th century B.C., it was called Jadara, a Greco-Roman village. It was also the land of the Phoenician poet and philosopher Monib Ominos. It is also the land of Philodimous, of the first century B.C., who wrote. "10 vou I sav. Oh passer-by: As vou are now. I wa As I am now, you will be. Enjoy life like a mortal."

Several civilisations passed through the gates of Umm Oais. The Jews invaded Umm Qais and Bogley liberated it. The Byzantines made it their religious heart and the Persians conquered it. The Arabs in the Yarmouk Battle freed Umm Qais once again.

I wonder what is left of those days. Today I can walk among the ruins of the church, theatre and past Achtar, the statue of the goddess of love and fertility. For me, on that first trip to Umm Qais, a new gate to my homeland had opened, however hrief.

1897 - Allied powers land

1898 — U.S. battleship

1942 - Singapore surren-

1944 — U.S. troops com-

plete reconquest of Solomon

Islands in Pacific Ocean in

World War II: nearly 1.000

British hombers pound

1970 — Israeli oil pipeline is opened. linking Eliat to

Ashkelon. 1973 — United States and

Cuha sign agreement calling

for prosecution or extradition

of hijackers of airplanes and

1978 — Agreement is

announced in Rhodesia to

hring blacks into rev roles in

government of Prime Minis-

1990 - Britain and Argen-

tina restore diplomatic rela-

tions, broken off during the

1982 Falkland Islands War.

withdraw from Kuwait but

continues to demand that

Israel withdraw from Arab

territory and George Bush

calls Iraqi statement a "cruel hoax;" South African gov-

ernment announces it will

free all political prisoners and

African National Congress

agrees to end armed struggle

Somali clans answer peace mediators with more fighting.

By The Associated Press

1992 - Sixteen injured as

against apartheid.

1991 — Iraq says it will

ter lan Smith.

ders to Japanese forces in

maine is hlown up in Havana

forces on Crete.

harbour, Cuba.

World War II.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

#### HOWLERS LITERATURE

- \* There are three kinds of poetry: tyric, dramatic and
- ☆ Shakespeare wrote tragedies, comedies and errors.
- ★ An epitaph is a short sarcastic poem.
- \* Prospero is the clown in The Vicar Of Wakefield, by Charles Dickens.
- # Poetry is a thing you make prose of.
- \* Homer wrote the Oddity.
- # A morality play is a play in which the characters are goblins, ghosts, virgins, and other supernatural crea-

#### \* \* \* \* \* LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

- Do you speak English? . Enta tit'kallam Ingleezi? — Does anyone here speak French?
- Fee had hone bitkallam Faransawi? - I speak only German. Ana bat'kallam Almani faqat.
- I know some Russian. Arif shwayet Roussi. Please speak more slowly.
- Lut'fan, takallam shwaych shway. I understand you. Ana Fahman aleik. I did not understand. Ana moosh fahman. - Repeat it, please. Takallam marra tania, min fad'lak
- Do you understand me now? Anta fahemt al-aan. I know/We know. Ana arif/Ehna narif.
- We don't know where we are! Ehna ma'narif ray'heen fain. - What is that? What are these? Eish hada? Eish hadoul.
- How do you go there? Keef bitrooh honak? We need an interpreter. Ehna ayzeen mu-tarjim.

#### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- (1) What is tachygraphy?
- (2) What would you be watching if you saw a loop, rolls. spin, and bunt?
- (3) Which is the voice between SOPRANO and CON-TRALTO?
- (4) Which famous American poet used the pseudonym HANS HAMMERGAFFÉRSTEIN?
- (4) Which wedding anniversary is symblised by tin?
- (5) What do we call THREE VOWEL SOUNDS prenounced in ONE SYLLABLE?
- (7) What is sternutation?
- (8) In Exodus, how many plagues were visited upon the
- (9) Why are wedding rings worn on the fourth finger? (10) In which book would you find MRS. DOASYOUWOULDBEDONEBY?

#### \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### MY NAME - This is what it means

HATEM: The judge; the ruler. HARITH — One of the lion's names; money-amasser. HARIS - The keeper; the protector. HAZIM - Resolute & unreluctant; judicious; discreet. HAFIZ: The guardian; the custodian.

HAMED — One who thanks or shows gratitude; one who praises or lauds. Also HAMDAN and HAMEED have Back here at home, when I hear about the poverty And I just adore huying vegetables which are irrigated by

obstacle by eating biscuits instead. The dinar buys half Shakoush), but I don't fret. I'm playing it cool. And last year, I was assured by a long-range weather forecast that we wouldn't have snow like the previous Fehruary for

got to go sometime! Pass the coffee!"

tical "I" but who cares?)

I reply, "Hey, no problem! Don't worry, be happy! Tomorrow is a new and better day. Such issues don't bother me. I am leaving them up to the children of the

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

almost the same meaning. HABIB - Sweetheart; lover, darling; friend.

#### \* \* \* \* HUMOUR '

- A congressman, back home from Washington. telling a few of his constituents about the dream he had.
  "I was sitting in the House," he said," and must have dozed off. Soon I began dreaming that I was on the floor, making a speech. And, by golly, I was."
  - \*\*\*
- While the congressman was standing outside the post office in his home town out west, a cowboy galloped up, reined his horse to a halt and tossed the reins to the congressman.
- "Here, hold my horse for a few minutes, will you?" he asked. Drawing up himself to his fullest height the congressman coldly informed the cowboy that he was a
- Oh, I see," said the cowboy, "I'll get somebody else to do it, then. Thanks, though, for warning me.'
  - \* \* \* \*
- Visitor: "But I assure you, my good man, that I am not a patient here. I am a congressman conducting an investigation into the treatment of mental patients in this hospital. Attendant: "Hey, Jee! Get the strait jacket, will you? I've got a violent case here."

#### YOUR DREAMS INTERPRETED

\* \* \* \* \*

LJPS: Thin or cruel lips in a dream are a warning against making hasty judgement of others. Beautiful lips signify a successful sex life and happiness in love. Thick, overly sensual, or ugly lips forecast failure in love but success in husiness. Chapped dry. or sore lips indicate a loss of status or husiness reverses. Children's or babies' lips are a sign of true friendship where you least expected it.

KISS: The meaning of a dream kiss depends on the circumstances involved. If the kissing was pleasant, proper, and a sincere token of affection, it predicts happiness and contentment; but if it was of a perfunctory, meaningless, insincere, or illicit nature, it signifies a false friend or disappointment in love affair. A dream of kissing babies or small children forecasts success in a difficult undertaking. To dream of trying to avoid a kiss from someone you dislike portends a minor illness or a vexing experience.

EMBRACE: A sort of dream of contrary. To dream of being embraced predicts that impulsive behaviour, if not controlled, will subject you to unfair criticism. To dream of embracing others, or observing others embrace each other indicates basic family unity in spite of quarrels or differences of opinion.

#### **PUZZLES**

\*\*\*

- 1. What are the next two numbers in this series? 1 4 13 28 49 \_\_
- 2. (A) There are five lettered statements in this puzzle. (B) This is not a statement.
- (C) Only two of the statements are false. (D) Only one of the statements is true.
- (E) If you can solve this puzzle, you are a very logical
- Is statement E true?

## Looking for the Little Tramp

By Phillippa Neave

LONDON — Maybe people expected too much from the meeting of two geniuses. When Riehard Attenborough, one of the great filmmakers, decided to tackle the biography of Charlie Chaplin who died in 1977, some expected the sparks to fly. In fact, the result is a non-controversial, \$26 million production which goes only part of the way into explaining the Little Tramp phenomenon.

This is the fabulous story of the boy from the London slums who went to Hollywood to try his luck and ended up creating one of the best-known and best-loved screen characters of all time. Dozens of filmmakers before Attenborough had attempted to make a film about the life of this icon, who is credited with revolutionising the history of cinema singlehandedly, but only one was given the blessing from the notoriously prickly Chaplin estate. "When I knew Chaplin in the 1970s, be was always joking that every film company in the world had wanted to make a film about Charlie Chaplin," recalled Attenborough in an exclusive interview. When Chaplin's widow Oona agreed, the filmmaker could not believe his ears. "Not only did she say yes, but she invited me to come to the house, see all the archives, all bis private letters and diaries" - a privilege granted to few outside the

At last Attenborough was able to dig deep behind this intensely public figure whose life was sometimes fraught with scandal, because of his

family.

attraction to very young women, and who had a reputation for being ruthless at work and very tight-fisted despite his wealth. The movie Chaplin does not shed much light on the private motivations of this controversial man whose life is the stuff of legend. British critics have accused Attenborough of being soft on Chaplin, highlighting only his positive sides. Did he hold back? "I must be scrupulously honest. I would not have wished to distress the family, and they would have been equally distressed if I had made a dishonest film," was Attenbor-

ough's answer.
"The film engaged everything I love: Biography and the social significance of a man's work...Chaplin changed the face of the greatest communications media the world has ever invented," he added with characteristic passion. "He showed us that the cinema can reveal one human being to another, that it is a 'cri du coeur,' that it puts real people in circumstances the audience can understand and that can change the way the audience thinks." Will the movie Chaplin

change the way we think of the man who made audiences laugh and cry at the same time in every corner of the globe? Probably not. The film is not very funny: Audiences laugh mostly at the end, when shown footage of the Little Tramp. But what it does do is cast a touching look on a life that started when Chaplin's mother (played by Geraldine, the eldest of Oona and Charlie's eight children), a performer in

cheap dancehalls, collapses

before the audience, exhausted and hungry, and 5year-old Charlie scampers on stage to finish off her routine, not missing a beat. A few years later, when he was 14, as the next of kin, he was to commit his mother to an insane asylum for paupers.

"When I met Charlie's second wife (he was married four times), who is the only person alive who knew him really intimately, I asked her what abiding memory she had of him: it was his fear, his terror of going mad like his mother and his grandmother," says Attenborough. It was the intense passion that animated the man that fascinated Attenborougb. "His passion was like breathing. If he couldn't say or create what he wanted, everything else took second place. His love affairs, his wives, everything was marginalised once he was committed to his work."

This was the root of a formidable challenge. Who could portray such a giant? It took Attenborough months to decide. He considered almost every major screen actor, and, rather like his casting of Ben Kingsley, a relative outsider, for the role of Ghandi in one of his most famous biopics, Attenborough picked someone almost unknown — 26-year-old American Robert Downey Jr. Downey had played a few roles in a series of forgettable films. "The least important element was this. " said Attenborough, gesticulating like Chaplin with his feet pointing outward and twirling an invisible cane. "If they can't do that, they shouldn't be acting. What is difficult is to convey the passion that

drove Charlie in his work, love, politics — everything. When the camera goes close on the face, you have to be able to see behind the eyes the mental anguish, the pain, the commitment, the struggle to create. The first thing I learned in studying Charlie and his manner of creativity is the extent of his passion. It was frightening, extraordinary, unbelievable."

Downey was among a group of struggling young Hollywood actors who are perpetually scrambling for roles and will take almost anything they get. But this was an incredibly challenging role: The actor had to age from 17 to over 80 and still be . believable. During the tests. Downey leapt off the screen. 'It was a question of his ability to convey the pain, the. mental controversy that goes with creativity. Downey not only looked like Charlie, but he had great physical ability. he was balletic and athletic and he has a fantastic ear. No British actor would not be proud of Robert's Cockney accent - it's perfection. But most of all, it's in here." Attenborough says, pointing to his eyes.

On screen, the resemblance is uncanny, and Downey's months of studying Chaplin's mannerisms, down to the finest detail, paid off. In real life, this goodlooking, tousle-haired youth looks and speaks like a California kid. But clearly, he took his role so seriously that he still feels inhabited by the persona of Chaplin months after the filming has ended. "I haven't really been deprogrammed yet. It is a weird sensation," he explained in an exclusive interview. Sometimes I wonder if there

isn't some big spirit connection between Charlie and I. Maybe I need to relax and let it go...Sometimes I looked in the mirror, and I felt he was there for a second. There were times I did not know how I did the things I did," as if the inspiration came from elsewhere, he explained.

Downey's life is in some ways parallel to that of Chaplin's. He too was born into a show business family with an actress for a mother and a screenwriter and director for a father. He started to act at a young age "because my father couldn't afford to pay any child actors...Since I was very young, I have known that I am a performer. It's unrealistic, in a way, because you get to feel like you don't have a real life. Somehow, you are always preoccupied with performing. I think it Shakespeare who said Was life is a stage. Well, I'm on

Downey spent weeks training to speak, move, look and act like Chaplin. He read every book ever written on Chaplin, learned to play tennis with his left hand like him and spent hours speaking London's Cockney slang. "I would sit there and just spend an hour practicing picking up a fork." he recalls. "At times I felt such a huge responsibility, having to keep infusing his art with social criticism. pathos and a feeling of dignity under trying circumstances.

The pressure on a young actor with little experience was enormous. "You know you carry the whole film and that's scary. Sometimes during the shooting I wanted to hide and just do the ostrich thing. It was very intimidating. There were lots of British people on the set and I had to be British. You know. it's like one of those dreams when you are naked on stage and you don't have your lines memorised." Working with Attenborough was also daunting. "He is from such a different school of thought than I am that I wondered about it. For him, who has lived through the war and all that, any day that is not spent under the bombs is a day in heaven. I am spoiled, I am one of the 'me' generation. But we really connected on the emotional level, with the higher purpose of what we were doing."

Whether the film will open more doors for Downey is still uncertain, but he believes it was a privilge to have worked with Attenborough. "I admire his leadership so much," he said earnestly, "and his ability to motivate others through his attitude. On top of everything, he is an amazing actor. At times we would do scenes, and he would ask me to do it again. I would say, 'OK, you do it, and I would watch. I trusted him, I would do whatever he asked me to do." Downey's performance was convincing enough to impress Chaplin's own daughter Geraldine. "He's a genius," she exclaimed without hesitation during an interview. "Robert is incredible, absolutely extraordinary. It really moved me when I saw the film." Thin and elegant, Geraldine becomes animated when she recollects part of the filming that took place in the Chaplin family home in Switzerland. "I looked outside and Robert was on the terrace. Suddenly. it was daddy who was there. My heart leapt...So many others who tried to imitate my father were ugly, and Robert is good looking, as my father was. He doesn't really look like him, but in



Richard Attenborough, the director and producer of such epics as

Gandhi, received full approval from the Chaplin estate to do a biography of the Little Tramp

coslume he was perfect. His mannerisms were so perfect I told him 'you are possessed, you are the reincarnation of my father!"

Geraldine Chaptin also fett strong emotions when she played the role of her own grandmother, who struggled to work in tatty dancehalls to keep her two children fed, finishing her days in the grimmest of Vietorian madhouses. "I never knew my grandmother," the actress said. "For me, it was just another role, until I actually saw the film. I thought, poor woman. It really shocked me."

Although he picked an outsider for the main role, Attenborough hedged his bets by lining up a solid cast behind him, including Dan Akroyd, Anthony Hopkins, Kevin Dunn, Kevin Kline and Moira Kelly, who is bound to attract attention for her convincing portrayal of Oona Chaplin, She has Geraldine's full appreciation. "I saw her before the film without makeup and I thought, she's got nothing to do with my mother. She's just a kid and she is going to have a hard time with all. my brothers and sisters watching her every move. But Moira Kelly is an extraordinary actress; she really captured the essence of my mother, her joyfulness, her being, and that is hard because physically, she really does not look much like her.

Commenting on the film, Geraldine Chaplin explained: "It was a difficult film to make and Attenborough did it with an enormous amount of respect. There had been dozens of film projects, musicals and all sorts of really awful ideas. My mother agreed to let him do it, allowed him to have access to

anything he wanted. Her only condition was that she didn't want anything to do with it, she didn't want to talk to him or get involved in the writing. She asked Attenborough to excuse her, but said she did not want to see the film." Oona Chaplin never did see it. It was released in London recently and is due for world release in the coming months, but she died five weeks before shooting was due to start.

If Chaplin the movie does not possess the magic of

Charlie Chaplin films and of the Little Tramp, it is a loyal and colourful biography of one of the greatest men in cinenia. Doubtless, Robert Downey's wish will be rulfilled, "I am hoping that the film will re-introduce people to Chaplin and that they will get interested in him and his work. I wasn't really a fan before, but now I'm nuis about him. I suggest everyone go out and rent a video of one of Chaplin's movies." The magic never dies -World News Link.



A relative beginner, Robert Downey Jr. has managed to reflect the passion that made Chaplin a genius in his field

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Hetty Kelly, played by Moira Kel-

ly, who was also given the part of

#### Thursday, Feb. 11

Early in the movie Chaplin, the

young Chaplin, played by Robert

Downey Jr., meets his first love

8:30 Uncle Buck

Uncle Buck invites a sick friend to stay a few days at bis house. But his stay turns out to be longer than expected.

9:10 The Human Factor

Starring: John Mahoney, Jan Lucas, Kurt Deutsch and Matthew Ryan

Two medical students are able to make right diagnosis on two difficult cases, thus moving a step abead towards a promising career.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Juggernaut (Feature

Starring: Omar Sharif, Richard Harris and Anthony Hopkins.

A passenger ship with 1,200 people on board is threatened to be blown up by a terrorist who gives them only a few hours to pay the ransom he asks for.

#### Friday, Feb. 12

8:30 Coach

The Bachelor Party Haiden is invited to attend a

#### party for men only.

Oona Chaplin

9:10 E.N.G.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Columbo

Starring: Peter Falk----

An old, once-famous star dreams of a spectacular comeback, but discovers that murder is the only way for her to fulfil ber dream; and Columbo investigates.

Saturday, Feb. 13

8:30 America's Funniest Home Videos

9:00 Documentary

9:30 Science Workshop

An episode about the use of solar energy in protection and desalination of sea water.

10:00 News In English

10;20 The Fatal Image (Feature Film)

Starring: Michele Lee and Justine Bateman

Two American tourists get trapped in a deadly crime circle in Paris.

#### Sunday, Feb. 14

8:30 Who's The Boss?

The Unsinkable Tony Micelli

Tony refuses to join little Billy in a swimming contest because of his fear of water.

9:10 Documentary: "The Visit"

Little Big Man

The story of Mathew, a young British boy, born with a geneuic defect that inhibits his normal growth.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Law and Order

The district Attorney's office works on convicting the muderer of an important businessman.

Monday, Feb. 15

8:30 Step By Step

Starring: Patrick Duffy and Suzanne Somers

Carol's daughter Dana gets into trouble while she is secretly at a dance party not for girls of her age.

#### 9:10 (New Mini-series)

Marlin Bay

Marlin Bay Lodge sits uneasily next to a small rural settlement, where locals struggle to make a living off the land.

to make a living off the la

10:20 Jordan Weekly

10:40 Vietnam

As air raids continue on Vietnam and the war gets uglier, rage and horror grip the people of Australia, who start to express their feelings with demonstrations and unrest.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

8:30 Perfect Strangers

Going Once, Going Twice...

When the two friends attend an auction, they come back with more than they had bargained for.

9:10 Dirt Water Dynasty 10:00 News In English

10:20 Big Man

Starring: Bud Spencer and Denis Karvil Experience detectives Jack and Simon, who work for a major insurance company, investigate the story behind a series of mysterious deaths.

Wednesday, Feb. 17

8:30 Saved By The Bell

Kelly is bitterly disappointed when she discovers that her relationship with an older, sophisticated guy is not always a bed of roses.

9:00 One Step Ahead

Another episode about Jordanian women in the field of medicine which features interviews with Dr. Nawal Farez and Dr. Najwa Boulos. The programme is presented by Nisreen Al Tal and directed by Mohammad

9:30 Classic Cars

"Red And Sexy"

Hmoud.

The programme talks about the manufacture of special cars in Italy where fine, classic cars are considered objects of art.

Apollo and in built over an river which is so its foundations severe structure.

Mr. Kokoni

10:00 News In English

10:20 Bodyline

# Crumbling Bolshoi faces 2 years without a home

By Mark Trevelyan Reuler

MOSCOW — Repairs to the crumbling Bolshoi Theatre will force it to close for at least two years and "murder" its world-renowned ballet and opera company unless a new temporary home is found, its director said.

"People think the theatre is just columns, an auditorium and nothing more," Vladimir Kokonin told a news conference.

"But in the theatre, the main thing is people — if the troupe is left without a building, it will be tantamount to the murder of the theatre."

Mr. Kokonin said he expected repairs to start about 1995 and take at least two years, but the government was so far taking the problem of relocating the troupe "not very seriously".

The classical 19th-century theatre, its delicate pink facade crowned by a statue of Apollo and his chariot, is built over an underground river which is seeping away at its foundations and causing severe structural problems.

severe structural problems.
Mr. Kokonin said repairs
would cost more than \$300
million and require foreign
capital, though it was unclear
in what form.

Until the government worked out a plan to repair the theatre and rehouse its troupe, the employees of the Bolshoi would "stay put and wait till it falls on our heads", he added.

Structural problems are not the only ones facing the Bolshoi, whose 2.000 employees and just under 1.000 performers make it the world's biggest theatre, according to Mr. Kokonin. Economic crisis in Russia

Economic crisis in Russia has hit the arts as hard as any other sector, although a decree by President Boris Yellsin last September guaranteed the Bolshoi state funding on about the same level as before.

Closure of some specialist ballet and music sehools means the theatre can no longer count on a practically inexhaustible supply of young talent, and must work harder at finding and training future

Mr. Kokonin said no major stars had left permanently for the West since the flambo y a n t T a t a r 1 r e k Mukhamedov left for London in 1991. But many dancers, paid the equivalent of just \$20 to \$25 per month, sign temporary foreign contracts over which the Bolshoi has no control.

Artistically, the theatre is criticised for endlessly recycling its repertoire of classical operas and ballets with little

flair or innovation.

A special "Bolshoi season" now running at London's Royal Albert Hali was panned by some critics for presenting only highlights of well-known ballets like Swan Lake, an approach which purists say trivialises the art.

Mr. Kokonin said the theatre aimed to stage two or three new opens and ballets a year. A Russian-Italian production of Borodin's Prince Igor will move from Genoa to Moscow this year and co-productions of Aida and Turandot are planned.

In some cases, new artistic freedoms have transformed classical operas that ran in specially doctored versions in Soviet times.

By order of dictator Josef Stalin, Glinka's opera A Life For The Tsar was renamed Ivan Susanin in the 1930s and all references to the tsar removed from its libretto. The original version has now been

restored.

I'm an optimist," Mr.

Kokonin said. "Would we like to return to the past? No.

like to return to the past? No.
"There may be problems,
but we will solve them somehow."

## Third World discovers you are what you eat

\$∴ By Clare Pedrick

ROME — Heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer and obesity, all ailments found regularly in the overfed industrialised world, are beginning to make their appearance in parts of the developing wotld. Health officials studying the unwelcome trend say changes in eating habits and lifestyle patterns are largely to blame.

While the wealthy countries have long embarked on a campaign to improve their diet and live a healthier lifestyle, the developing nations are lagging far behind, sav nutrition experts. Deaths from cardio-vascular diseases and incidences of other dietrelated diseases have been declining for the past 15 years in many European countries. and in North America. Japan and Australia, thanks to health education campaigns to-reduce the intake of unsaturated fats, cholesterol and salt, and to take more exercise and eliminate smoking. But diet-related diseases are killing a growing number of people in the developing world and Eastern Europe.

A recent study by the World Health Organisation (WHO) found that the number of diet-related premature deaths in the 55 to 64 age group fell by 9 per cent be-tween 1960 and 1989 in the industrialised world. But in the Third World, the number of premature deaths from diet-related diseases rose by 11 per cent during the same period. In the over 65 age group, there was no change in the number of deaths in the industrialised world. But the developing world saw a massive 37 per cent jump during that period.

Unlike the developed world, where killer diseases related to bad diet and exercise patterns tend to strike the poorer sectors of society. the developing world has a particular — though not exclasive - problem with its

emetging middle classes, say food experts. "It is linked to a growth in income in some sectors," said Elisabet Helsing, a regional advisor for nutrition for the WHO. "For example. in rice eating countries, where the grandfather used to have a large plate of rice and a little bit of sauce. today's middle class has a lot of sauce and meat, and a little bit of rice."

The growing incidence of killer diseases usually associated with an affluent lifestyle are all the more alarming in the developing world, whose main problem is fighting bunger and poverty. "In many of these countries, you have poverty and prosperity side by side. said Ms. Helsing. 'One possible side effect is that as the middle and uppermiddle classes get health problems such as heart disease, they will want intensive care wards and ambulances. for example, and this could take resources away from primary health care for the poorer segments of the population. It is something to be watched very closely.

Said Patricia Dexter, a

nutrition officer at the U.N.'s

Food and Agriculture Orga-

nisation (FAO): "There are 780 million people who do not bave enough to eat or are chronically energy deficient. Yet a number of developing countries also have problems of obesity. Many countries are facing both these problems at the same time." Obesity is a growing problem among children in many developing nations. Childhood obesity is now common in many Caribbean countries. say FAO experts, and as many as one in three urban women are grossly over-weight in the Caribbean. WHO figures show that 5 per cent of pre-school children are overweight in Iran, almost 6 per cent in Mauritius, 10 per cent in Jamaica and almost 11 per cent in Chile. In later life, obesity

can seriously increase a petson's chances of developing heart disease, hypertension. diabetes and some forms of

High blood pressure is becoming a major problem in East and West Africa. In various developing countries. most notably Ghana, Kenya and Papua New Guinea. hypertension — strongiy associated with coronary heart disease and strokes is increasing in the urban population. Studies in Kenya have shown the main cause to be an increase in salt intake.

High rates of non insulindependent diabetes — which can be triggered by a sedentary lifestyle, poor diet, excessive alcohol consumption. stress and urbanisation - are being diagnosed in urban communities in India, China and Mauritius and in immigrants from the Indian subcontinent who have settled in the U.K., the Caribbean, Singapore and South Africa. Very high rates are found among the Fiji Indians and the Australian aborigines.

Heart disease is increasing in Mexico. India and the Near East. Cardio-vascular and other degenerative disease now rank as the second biggest killer — after infectious diseases - in the developing world. Cardiovascular diseases. which account for 24 per cent of all deaths worldwide, are linked to obesity and to the amount of unsaturated fats in the diet, as well as to other lifestyle patterns, such as lack of physical exercise and smoking. While smoking is declining by an overall 1.5 per cent \*per year in the industrialised world, it is increasing by an annual 2 per cent in the developing nations. Japan has decreased its mortality rate due to diet-related diseases by 27 per cent in the past five years, Finland by 22 per cent, the U.K. by 14 per cent and Ireland by 9 per... cent. But during the same Pat Dexter. "Urban growth is

period, the number of deaths from diet-related diseases in Thailand has soared by 155 per cent, in Egypt by almost 150 per cent, in Ecuador by 100 per cent and in Mauritius by 85 pet cent.

In Singapore, Mexico, Sri Lanka and Greece, the mortality rates are also rising sharply. But some of the highest upturns are in Eastern Europe. In Romania. Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary and Russia, deaths related to chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, stroke, heart attacks. liver disease and cirrhosis are more frequent than in most Western countries and are rising fast. "All of Eastern Europe is going the wrong way," said Ms. Helsing. "I think that is partly due to a lack of awareness on the part of the population and partly on the part of the policy makers. Our policy makers in the industrialised world are aware of the relationship between diet and diseases. Farmers are producing leaner cattle and butchers are cutting their carcasses to give leaner meat. But go into a meat shop in Russia and it looks as if the animals have been victims of a chainsaw massacre, The meat is cut up and sold, all of it at the same price, and the piece you get depends on your relationship with the person behind the counter.

there is more energy in it." One of the main problems, say nutritionists, is that eating habits have failed to adapt to changing lifestyle patterns. As more and more people abandon the rural areas to live in cities, they fail to adjust the quality and the calories of their food intake to their new. less physically demanding environment. When people move into urban areas, they become more sedentary, and that tends to produce obesity." said FAO nutrition officer

The fat is prized because

increasing more rapidly in the developing countries than in the developed world.

In an urban environment, people take less exercise because of the availability of mechanised transport and the attraction of television. "And the children have less space to play in." said Ms. Helsing. Poor food distribution is another culprit, especially in the centrally planned economies of the former Communist nations of Eastern Europe, where consumer demands for freshness and quality have traditionally been ignored. "Bad food distribu-tion leads to poor dietary variety and choice," said Ms. Helsing, "This is especially lacking in the former Soviet Bloc where there was this long-term plan for food supplies. That is one of the things they have to work on.

Nutritionists say a key element in tackling the problem will be to educate the population with healthy eating campaigns, similar to the ones that have been so successful in the industrialised world. In some areas, work has already begun. "The FAO has programmes to promote traditional foods, so that people will be encouraged to eat the foods their grandmothers ate," said Dexter, "We try to emphasise nutrition education, starting at a young age. We support government programmes that work side by side with the education programmes to implement them in a practical way, for example, through school lunch programmes.

But educating the public will be next to useless unless there are changes in agricultural, distribution and marketing practices, say experts. In the developed

By Belinda Hopkinson

The Associated Press

PARIS - Women in their

40s need not get routine

mammograms, a committee

of experts has concluded at

the close of a breast cancer

women older than 50 are

Routine mammograms in

screening conference.



brought untimely death and heart.

prosperity has disease to many people in the d veloping world whose diet has

started breeding cattle with less fat on it in response to concern about the link between animal fat and cardiovascular diseases and cancer. The food industry has been forced to adapt its products. producing low-fat milk and dairy products, more whole grain bread and unrefined sugar and rice. At the same time, researchers have been looking at ways to use excess fat trimmed from carcasses and skimmed from milk. "For example, it can be fed to animals," said Ms. Hels-

Ms. Helsing points to Maruitius as a case in point. Concerned about a serious rise in the number of deaths caused by diet-related diseases, the government called world, the farming industry in the WHO for advice.

clearly linked to lower death

rates, but current research

has not shown decisively that

women in their 40s benefit

from regular breast cancer

screening, experts from the

European Society of Mastol-

ety's 17-member Évaluation

Committee opposes a recent

The conclusion by the soci-

ogy announced.

"They bave been aware of their problem for a long time. because diabetes is very common there and they have a tremendously high premature mortality rate from cardiovascular diseases and cancer," said the Norwegianborn nutrition expert. "I went there to look at their food pattern and I found that in this tropical island sugar crops took up most of the space and there was very little cultivation of other vegetables. What little there was went to the tourist hotels."

The government of Mauritius is now planning to write a policy document which will examine ways of increasing what Ms. Helsing describes as the population's "ridiculously low vegetable intake."

In order for any long term: solution to be found, she says, agriculture, education and public health must work hand in hand. "We know that . it works," said Ms. Helsing. "Both Norway and Finland had nutrition policies and the message has gone down to the people and to the producers at the same time. The proportion of fat in the diet has actually gone down contrary to most of the rest of the world - from more than 40 per cent of the total energy intake to below 35 per cent today. There is no magic bullet, but there are many contributors, from the dairy. to the butchers to the animal . breeders' accepting that they have to go in for leaner animals. Everyone bas to do their share" - World News Link.

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## **WEEKEND CROSSWORD**

INTERNATIONAL MENU

21 Singer John 22 Eight: prefor - 98 Music and po e g 24 Gruesome 25 —garde 26 Move a be 27 Yellson in the 30 Pay the price

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Diagramiess 21 x 21, By James Barrick

366 18 Part of a meal 19 Fabulous bird

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87 Florida city 96 White poplar 95 Swap 100 Totally clear 101 Residue 102 Leaders of yore 104 Unjoined 107 Therefore

Last Week's Cryptogra

Il easy crossword puzzles are boring, why should hard crypts be so frustrating? Zounds!

CRYPTOGRAMS

I. NUTS ACH CNQVT RBQL ACHSCY. OUT OSKRRTZ ACHSKY, HQQV QST SKY QR KH,

2. ALOT SPUNK ATLAST WTULOT FTQN-NZTTJ QZJ ZPOW, LHITYB ZPOWTY, FITZ BITMY ZPOWTY ULOTB PA MZ HIT SLHBTYK.

3. A.M.L. VUDDU: A'NN SUD MOLD SUM MONEY

4. NOR SKEM SMKEI WIOBG ORG BIG PAKE, OBBIFEIG WO YUURPIB, PHOKNIG GIUIRFI





## Study shows beta carotene boosts immunity

PORTLAND. Oregon (R) - A new study by Oregon research physicians suggests that massive doses of beta carotene, a compound found iп many vegetables, may improve the immune systems of people infected with AIDS.

Doctors at Oregon Health Sciences University said they have found that heta carotene increased the number of blood cells which fight infections.

Their findings are scheduled to be published in the March issue of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Dr. Gregg Coodley, the study's principal investigator. said 21 patients in the study experienced a 13 per cent increase in CD4 blood cells after being treated with 180 milligrammes of beta carotene daily for four

Beta carotene is found in many vegetables, including carrots. It is a class of compounds known as carotenoids, a precursor to Vitamin A.

CD4 cells are white blood cells that fight invading

TRUTARAK KATA BATA BATAN KATAN BATAN B organisms. The AIDS virus causes a decline in those cells, leaving the body open to infections which eventually

result in death for victims of

According to the centres for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, the definition of AIDS is a CD4 count of 200 or less per deciliter of blood. A normal count is 1,000.

tbe virus.

"It is possible that beta carotene may prompt increased production of specific white blood cells or may block their destruction," Dr. Coodley said.

The doctor said all of the patients in the study experienced increases in the number of white blood cells and CD4 cells after they received the beta carotene supplements.

All but one of the study participants were also receiving the anti-viral drug AZT, which is used to combat

AIDS. Dr. Coodley said the new finding raises hopes that beta carotene used with anti-viral treatments, such as AZT, could delay an HIV infection from turning into full-blown

Routine mammograms for women younger than 50 not necessary decision adopted by the

American Cancer Society, which recommends that women in their 40s continue to have mammograms every one or two years, despite no firm evidence that younger women benefit from the "We are being more cautious and skeptical than the Americans," said Nicholas Wald, chairman of the Eva-

luation Committee and a medical professor at the University of London. "Before Europeans make breast screening routine in public health programmes. for women under 50, further re-search must be done to show that such tests will actually reduce the death rate in these younger women."

The committee also concluded that monthly breast self-examination need not be recommended as public health policy in Europe.

"Does that mean that a woman should ignore her

breasts? No. If a woman: notices that something iswrong with her breast, then she should consult a doctor," Dr. Wald said. "But monthly self-examination of the breast, and even examination. by a trained practitioner. bave shown to be far less effective than a mammo-

gram. The committee called for further research on breast cancer screening in women younger than 50. Until now, research performed in the United States, Canada and Europe bas failed to show that younger women's lives are saved by mammograms. The conference also laun-

ched the Europa Donna Charter Project, which calls for improved breast cancer screening, treatment and research.

Breast cancer kills 14,000 French women a year and is, the cancer that causes the most deaths in European.

#### **ANSWERS**

#### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

I. Shorthand, especially ancient Greek and Roman. 2. Aerobatics.

3. Mezzo-soprano.

4. Henry W. Longfellow.

5. Tenth. 6. Triphthong.

7. Sneezing.

8. Ten. 9. Ancients believed it contained a nerve going straight to

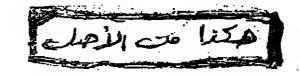
the beart. 10. The Water Babies.

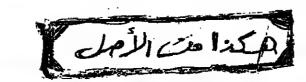
**PUZZLES** 

1. 76 and 109. The differences between successive numbers' by 6 each time.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. It is not possible to deduce whether statement E is true





## NHF, French doctor discuss dialysis-unit needs of Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday mct with Maria Darleguy, of the French organisation: Transports Hamanitaire Saos Frontieres (THSF), who is currently on a five-day visit to Jordan, and discussed means of developing new haemodialysis units in Jordanian public hospitals, and of more cooperation between Jordan and

THSF has donated eight machines which will be used to equip a new haemodialysis unit housing five machines with a specialised lab at Mafraq Hospital. while three others will be housed at Al Bashir Hospital to support

Yesterday, Dr. Darleguy met at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation with its President, the under-

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Jordan and the University of

Maine in the United States signed

cooperation agreement

Wednesday to develop academic relations in the fields of research,

faculty exchanges, student ex-changes and training; and in the mutual interest of both Institu-

tions to address the goals and objectives of the Jordanian Royal

Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN).

versity of Jordan President Fawzi

Gharaibeh and University of

Maine President Fredrick E.

Hutchinson, calls for both institu-

tions to host reciprocal visits from

academic staff to deliver lectures

and seminars, spend their sabba-

tical leaves, and participate in the various academic activities con-

of Maine shall provide training opportunities for University of

Jordan academic and administra-

It stipulates that the University

ducted by both universities.

The agreement, signed by Uni-

University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh (right) and University of Maine President Frederick Hutchinson (left) sign an agreement of cooperation Wednesday in Amman (File photo)

**Jordan University** 

signs agreement with

**University of Maine** 

and wildlife.

diet h

secretary of the Ministry of Health, the director of Al Bashir Hospital who is also the president of the Friends of Kidney Patients Society (FKPS) and the head of the Pediatric Department at the University of Jordan Hospital, and discussed means of cooperation between the French organisation and Jordan.

They also discussed the possibility of equipping a six-bed intensive care pediatric unit at the Jordan University Hospital.
According to FKPS statistics,

there are over 750 patients with kidney failure problems in Jor-

Each haemodialysis machine carries a price tag of JD 20,000, while haemodialysis services cost about JD 160 a week for each

tive staff in areas relating to

natural resources conservation

stitutions, the agreement states,

shall collaborate in undertaking

tins of mutual interest which per-

tain maioly to the latest develop-

meots and innovations in the

fields of natural resources man-

agement, the agreement states.

The cooperation agreement is

to last four years.

Faculty members of both in-

sea resort, said Tawfiq Kawar, Chairman of the JSAA. The vessels must also certify that only passeogers are on "There should be no hatches and no boles in the ship and it will

be, officials said Wednesday.

Sufian Al Mheissen, director

of the Jordan Shipping Associa-tion Agents (JSAA) told Reuters

he had been informed officially of

the change, which took effect February 1, in a letter.

that tourist ships heading to

Agaba will not be inspected any-

Cruise ships en route to Agaba

can sail past maritime inspectors

in the Red Sea without being

boarded if the trip is registered 60

days in advance of arrival at

Jordan's southern port and winter

more," Mr. Mheissen said.

"They sent us a memo saying

Gnlf crisis.

be released immediately after the inspection team sees their documents," Mr. Kawar said. Ships carrying goods to be un-loaded at Aqaba remain under

strict inspection. Western warships patrol the because of the inspection.

Cruise ships to Aqaba will not be searched AMMAN (Agencies) — Cruise Red Sea for contraband in possi-liners bound for Jordan will no ble violation of a U.N. embargo longer be searched under the slapped on Iraq after its August U.N.-eoforced Iraq hlockade, 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

According to the U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Florida, but cargo ships will continue to The change is expected to which controls American naval forces in the Gulf region, about boost tourism in Jordan's Port of Aqaba, once Iraq's key ioterna-tional trade bieline before the 16,000 ships have been inter-

> According to Mr. Mheissen, the latest ship intercepted was an unidentified Turkish freighter on Jan. 20, which was forced to dock and unload its cargo at the Suez Canal for further inspection. The ship was released on Feb. 7.

Since December, at least three ships have been intercepted, Mr. Mheissen said.

The alliance ships still adopt the same operations against cargo ships in the Red Sea coming to Agaba," be said.

But be added that be hoped the recent move to allow passenger liners through would enconrage liners, scared off over the past two years because of strict inspection by the U.S.-led allies, to return to Aqaba on regional

pected this month with some 2,000 ttourists on board. Officials say Jordan's economy has lost at least \$30 million over the past two years in surcharges

Agaba under the new rules is

The first cruise ship to arrive at

Deputies dispute legality of questioning its delay Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN - The Council of Ministers Saturday is expected to

approve a new draft labour law which the government will present to Lower House of Parliament next week, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thougan Al Hindawi said Wednesday

Mr. Hindawi made the announcement at a House session after arguing that deputy Bassam Haddadin had no legal right to question Minister of Labour Abdul Karim Al Kabariti on the "delay in drafting the new law." Accusing government of de-

laying the law which it said it would prepare in its policy statement to the House in December 1991, for political reasons, Mr. Haddadin said the government had made a legal violation that prompts questioning.
"Delaying the new law," he said, "is an attempt to maintain

the current labour law which is biased in favour of employers.' Mr. Haddadin who argued his case in a language ringing with

socialist terminology, dropped bis questioning of Mr. Kabariti after Mr. Hindawi said the law will be completed next week. Mr. Hindawi, Mr. Kabariti and other deputies, however, said

Mr. Haddadin's questioning of Mr. Kabariti was illegal. employers, labour uoions and the



Cabinet expected to approve draft labour law

"The Constitution stipulated a mechanism for questioning ministers on their handling of public sues," said Mr. Hindawi.

Drafting the law is a joint responsibility for which the labour minister should not be held accountable, be said, adding that the draft law on labour was the government's initiative and it is not legally bound to present it to the House within any time limit.

suspect and "asked questions in a moody and emotional way. Mr. Kabariti explained that drafting the new labour legislation required cooperation among

Mr. Hindawi said the govern-

ment refuses to be treated like a



Abdul Karim Al Kabariti government and thus took a long

ime to prepare. He rejected Mr. Haddadin's questioning as illegal, stating that "(Mr. Haddadin) knows that I am not less concerned than be is with finishing the new law."

During its two-hour session,

the House decided to discuss the government pricing system and ans to introduce new taxes next Wednesday, and delayed discussion of a draft sales tax law until deputies receive a government explanation of the reasons necessitating the new law as stipulated by the Constitution.

The House referred to its Judiciary Committee a proposal by 14 deputies to amend Article 86 of the Constitution.

The amendment aims at giving every parliamentarian immunity, from detention or trial unless a majority of the House decides that there is "sufficient reason to arrest or try him, or he is arrested, flagrante delicto, in which case. the House must be immediately informed.

Article 86 gives parliamentarians such immunity except when Parliament is not in session.

In such cases, the government is constitutionally obliged to notify (Parliament), when it reassembles, of the proceedings which were taken against (arrested deputies) coupled with the necessary explanation."

Asking the government to draft a new law that reflects the democratic orientation of the country, the House approved the decision of its Judiciary Committee to abolish the public gatherings law of 1953.

Under the current law, public gatherings have to be approved by administrative governors who have the right to disperse them with the use of force if they break the law or discuss issues other than those mentioned in the approval request.

The House also approved a draft law on building codes and specifications in the country, an economie and technical cooperaoon agreement with China and referred a number of proposals to its various committees.

## ADC meets U.S. envoy, voices Mideast concern

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable to Iranian President Ab Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani

congratulating bim in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on Iran's national day. King Hussein wished Mr. Rafsanjani continued good health and happiness and

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Nafi'a opened

Wednesday at Alia Art Gallery an art exhibition by Iraqi artist Havat Jameel Hafez. The exhibition, which will run until Feb. 19.

presents 71 watercolours depicting the countryside in Jordan and

AMMAN (Petra) — Chinese Ambassador ro Jordan Zhang De Liang Wednesday visited the Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST) and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS)

where he met with HCST Secretary-General Hani Al Mulki, who

is also RSS president. The meeting, which was attended by heads

of the HCST's various sections, reviewed means of enhancing scientific and technological cooperation between Jordan and

China. It also focused on ways to follow up the implementation of

the Jordanian-Chinese science and technology cooperation agree-

ment. Preparations in Jordan are currently under way to form

delegations comprising academics and specialists in various fields

RAMTHA (Petra) — President of the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) Kamel Al Ajlouni met Wednesday with members of the university's sports teams and stressed the

to visit Chinese scientific and technological institutions.

JUST head meets sportsmen

Jordan, China discuss scientific ties

the Iranian people further progress and prosperity.

Princess Nafi'a opens exhibition

AMMAN (J.T.) — Members of and the U.S., ADC said. the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) Middle East Regional Office met with U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roger Harrison Wednesday to voice ADC's concerns and points of views on various issues of importance in the Middle East.

The issues addressed at the meeting included the concern over the damage done by Israel's expulsion of 400 Palestinians to southern Lebanon. ADC President Nidal Sukhtian

join research projects and in exchanging scientific experience said that it is widely believed that this act of expulsion was a preand consultation in the fields of meditated move by Israeli Prime natural resources conservation. Minister Rabio to stall the peace In addition, it calls on both institutions to encourage the ex-ADC said Israel's lack of im-

change of nndergraduate and graduate students in all academic mediate implementation of U.N. fields through a reciprocal ex-Resolution 799 calling for the The two universities will also encourage the interchaoge of nniversity publications, dissertations and scientific joornals and bulle-

immediate repatriation of the expellees has caused great concern over the "double standard" of implementing U.N. resolutions. The compromise reached by Israel and the U.S. on the issue of the 400 expelled Palestinians is not adequate and falls short of

Arah expectations of the U.N.

King congratulates Iran

These expulsions have also succeeded in moving other obstacles which have been addressed by the Palestinian delegation out of the

spotlight, ADC asserted, The ADC also expressed its view that the U.N. should take definite action to prevent future expulsions by Israel.

Other issues discussed with Ambassador Harrison included the cootinued financing of Israel by the United States which is seen as continued support of Israel's actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In a letter to the U.S. ambassador, Mr. Sukhtian said "internafional law remains broken until each and every last one of the 396 expellees is allowed to return home. "International law must be upheld, and opheld io its entirety. And none other knows better than you that 'justice delayed is

justice denied'."
During the meeting, Mr. Harrison reconfirmed the U.S. government's opinion that the expulsions are contrary to the Fourth eneva Conventi

### Afro-Asian meeting focuses on rural problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, like many other Third World countries, is struggling against pover-ty, hunger and illiteracy and looks to regional and international cooperation to overcome such problems, according to Asem Ghosheh, Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the En-

vironment secretary general.

To stem these ills, the Jordanian government is giving priority to implementing socio-economic projects in the rural regions of the country and enlisting the belp of various organisations to achieve this goal, Mr. Ghosheh said in an address to the general conference, of the Afro-Asian Rural Reconstruction Organisation (AAR-RO) Wednesday.

Jordan supports Afro-Asian cooperation in rural development and calls for the creation of a special fund to finance projects in rural areas, Mr. Ghosheh said. In its drive to stem the continued move of people from rural to urban regions, the Jordanian government is trying to find employment for people in their own regions, is helping them to promote agricultural production, and

expanding services, he said. His Majesty King Husseio has directed the government to exert major efforts to execute rural development plans in order to improve the living conditions of the people io the rural districts, the secretary general said. Mr. Ghosbeh said the govern-

ment was laying the infrastructure for such projects to include social development, education, and vocational training with the aim of reducing differences between the villages and the cities.

He said Jordan was elected as a RO conference, which opened on member of the conference's Feb. 4, will involve discussion of group of experts charged with preparing a study on the orga-nisation's future projects. The AARRO, founded in the creation of a special rural development fund for Asia and Africa, prepare a three-year training programme for personnel in the two continents, encour- nomy of the rural masses in Afriage countries to exchange exper- ca and Asia and explore opportutise in combating poverty and

1962, aims to restructure the econities for coordination of efforts improving the living conditions of to promote welfare and eradicate residents in the rural areas, as mainutrition, disease, illiteracy and poverty among rural people.

#### Awqaf Ministry to begin registration of pilgrims registration, because the ministry

ry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Wednesday announced plans for registration of would-be pilgrims wishing to perform this year's pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina. Muslims have one month between Feb. 13 and March 14 to register with the ministry, which undertakes arrangements for the pilgrimage, according to Minister of Awqaf Sheikh Izzeddin Tami-

ference that Muslims from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip can register for the pilgrimage between Feb. 13 and March 4 at any of the departments of Awqaf in their regions.
Pilgrims should not entrust

mediators with the mission of

and its affiliated departments will not accept such practices, the minister said. The ministry has taken measures to ensure the smooth registration of the pilgrims and will

offer the chance for more con-

tractors than last year to help it

Carry out the procedures. Sheikh Tamimi said the contractors will undertake the task of providing round-trip transportation for pilgrims to the holy places, accommodations and other needs as specified in agreements to be signed with the minis-

try.
The minister added that a ministry mission together with a health team will accompany the pilgrims to Sandi Arabia.

#### The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and The minister told a press conthe daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

**EXHIBITIONS** 

WHAT'S GOING ON

A Exhibition entitled "Modernist Still Life Photographed" at the American Centre.

Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Syrian artist Nazir Nab'a at Baladna Art Gallery.

☆ Exhibition of paintings by the late Syrian artist Alfred Hatmal at Al Balqa Art Gallery in Fuheis city.

☆ Exhibition of paintings by four Arab artists from the United States — Ghada Jamal, Helen Khal, Suha Noursi and Afaf Zurayk — at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery in

Jabal Amman, between the First and Second Circles. ☆ Exhibition of photographs by Jean-Philippe Reverdot at the French Cultural Centre.

Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Hayat Jamil Hafez at Alia Art Gallery.

#### BALLET

☆ "Cités Citées" ballet performed by "Plaisir d'Offrir" group at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8 p.m.

#### FIELD TRIP

The Friends of Archaeology are organising a field trip to Pella on Friday. Departure will be from the Amra Hotel parking lot

#### **MUSICAL THEATRE**

Video of the musical "Damn Yankees" at the American Centre at 5 p.m.

#### Charity group to provide aid to poor during Holy Month

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Human Appeal International (HAI), a charity organisation, which spends about JD 1.6 million io Jordan annually, plans to distribute food, clothing and cash to needy families in the Kingdom during the upcoming Holy Month of Ramadan.

Adham Akel, spokesman for the organisation's office established in Amman in 1989, told the Jordan Times that HAI cares for 2,150 needy families in Jordan, providing them with in-kind assistance, and distributes food around the world. supplies and clothing to orphans

at home or in institutions. HAI has a list of 676 orphans who receive regular assistance. education and medical care, Mr.

penditure in Jordan covers the needs of the orphans, contributions to needy families and other related activities, he added.

HAI has just completed the distribution of five tonnes of garments to 500 needy families in rural and urban regions of the country and will soon distribute food and fuel to people in the remote regions, according to Mr.

He said HAI, which is based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), is a non-governmental organisation with 22 offices

HAI strives to raise funds in European countries and in the Gulf states for charity purposes and conducts its activities in the poor countries of Asia and Africa," he added.

# One of the series of paintings by Syrian artist Nazir Nab'a on display at Baladan Art Gallery

#### The 'romantic' Arab woman as painted by Nazir Nab'a

By Stephanie Genkin and Curt Ryan Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Tucked away on Gardens Street, Baladna Art Gallery provides an intimate setting for visitors to take in the local art scene. The gallery, in broadening its horizons, is cur-rently featuring the work of Syman artist Nazir Nab'a.

Mr. Nab'a is a veteran of the Arab art world, having exhibited his work for almost thirty years. Like so many artists displaying their work in Amman recently, he strives to convey a philosophical view of the East in his

The current collection at Baladna Art Gallery is comprised of a series of paintings, largely concentrating on studies of indi-

vidual women. While the works are dominated by the human figure, each com-bines elements of portraiture with those of still life painting.

Detailed attention is paid to the presentation of the human face, portrayed in a soft, delicate manner. The placement of the figures, cloaked in long, flowing, and sometimes revealing garments, adds a sensual quality to

Enriching the canvas still further, Mr. Nab'a creates an atmosphere for his subject, by incorporating familiar objects of the still life genre.

Each portrait is enhanced by folds of cloth, vases, flowers, and baskets of fruit. Perhaps the most striking feature of his work, however, is bis

use of both rich and muted colours, varying from picture to The artist's feeling for colour imbues the works with emotion. Mr. Nah'a produces a highly

and selective removal of colour. This effect is created by dabbing at the canvas to soak up excess paint. The end result is an image that conveys three-

quality suggesting movement. Viewing the collection as a whole offers a colourful glimpse of Mr. Naba's romantic image of

The exhibition will remain on

display at Baladna Gallery until

textured quality to the garments of his subjects, not so much hy adding paint, as through delicate

dimensionality, and a shimmering the Arab woman. voluntary societies in combatting environmental pollution, health

care and family planning schemes.

Jordan in various fields.

## Tunisian minister visits

AMMAN (Petra) — Al Munsef Abdul Jalil, an advisor to the Tunisian Minister of Education currently in the Kingdom, Wednesday visited the University

Mr. Abdul Jalil met with Dean of the Faculty of Sharia Yassin Daradkeh who briefed him on the establishment of the faculty, its objectives and the services it offers to the local society.

The Tunisian official also met with Dean of the Faculty of Education Sami Khasawneh Dr. Khasawneh briefed the guest on the faculty's educational programmes and its role in developing the educational sector in





**Campaign for environment protection starts** AMMAN (Petra) - The Jordanian Society for Combatting Environmental Pollution will Sunday organise, in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, an environmental awareness campaign in Irbid. The four-day programme will include a seminar on environment management, which will tackle the water problem in Jordan and proposed solutions, the role of

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## Flight to ideals

THE UPPER House of Parliament is poised to rectify a major fault in the draft law on press and publications. By accepting an amendment to Article 2 of the law, as recommended by the House's Judiciary Committee. the senators would hopefully bury for ever the wrong notion that only members of the Jordan Press Association (JPA) can be called and recognised as true journalists. This would be a remarkable improvement on the draft law that the Lower House passed several weeks ago, since it is a basic norm in international law, as expressed in various declarations on human rights, which clearly state that no-one may be forced to become a member of an association against his or her wish. This issue has been one of the main bones of contention between journalists, who are not members of JPA, and the association itself, and the timely intervention of the Senate to address it on the basis of common sense and the freedom of choice can only contribute to the viability of parliamentary life and democracy in our country.

Where the judiciary panel may have made the greatest compromise, however, is over the issue of forcing journalists to divulge their sources of information. As passed by the Lower House, the law makes it compulsory on journalists to divulge their sources of information to the judiciary only. The senators on the Judiciary Committee, on the other hand, are proposing to limit the rule for revealing the sources of information to the trial process in criminal cases only. While it is known that criminal trials are conducted in public and can be held in camera only in a very limited and rare situations, it would be easy to look at this amendment too as unsatisfactory. To make it obligatory on journalists to release secret information about their sources during trials is tantamount to making the confidentiality of their profession public. This would obviously compromise the integrity of the profession of journalists who must guard their sources of information as a privileged information on par with the confidential information that doctors and lawyers acquire from their clients.

The fact there is disagreement and division between the two chambers of Parliament on the draft law means that it may be necessary to hold a joint session in order to make efforts to resolve the problem. But hefore that happens, the honourable gentlemen of both houses should be called upon to think about and reflect more seriously on the long-range repercussions of this law, especially with the new amendments and ideas. As long as there are major differences among the people's representatives on this law or any other, it would be adviseable to go to the basics and to cling to ideals rather than opt for unworkable compromises.

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

BY ANNOUNCING that it will not consider any compromise over the question of the evicted Palestinians, or return them to their homes, Israel has presented the world community with another challenge and showed its defiance of Resolution 799, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. By announcing that Washington supports Israel's stand vis a vis the expellees. Israel is showing that the United States and Israel are hand in glove in this conspiracy against the Arabs and in defiance of the U.N. resolution, the paper said. One can only conclude that the U.S.-Israeli alliance is pushing the Arabs away from the peace negotiations and trying to present them as the party which does not want peace. It is obvious that the new U.S. administration is trying to wash its hands of the peace process in order to give more attention to U.S. domestic affairs despite its decision to send its state secretary to the region later this month. the paper said. Unless Washington really changes its stand, a negative one so far, the U.S. secretary of state's tour of Arab countries this month will be overshadowed by the evictees problem and could derail the whole Middle East peace process, warned the daily. The paper said that if Washington and Israel continue to use the evictees question as a lever to force the Arabs to boycott the coming session in the peace process, they are bound to achieve their goals sooner or later.

THE U.N. Security Council, which had been in the practice of holding sessions immediately after alleged Iraqi violations of U.N. resolutions, is dragging its feet about the question of the evicted Palestinians and in taking practical steps to ensure their return, said Al Dustour daily Wednesday. The paper said that the U.N. secretary general's call on the council to convene immediately and decide on measures to force Israel to implement U.N. Resolution 799 seems to have fallen on deaf ears. President Clinton's opposition to convening such a session seems to have aborted any practical step in this direction and foiled all measures needed to make the Jewish state comply with the requirements of the international legitimacy, the paper added. In contrast with the U.S. administration's biased stand, the Europeans seem to be moving towards a solution, the paper continued. However the Arabs can by no means accept any solution, coming from anypart, which is short of the implementation of Resolution 799 because the international legitimacy should follow one criteria that must be applicable to all world issues and all nations, warned the paper. It said that failure to implement its own resolution will render the council devoid of any credibility and would indeed aggravate the situation, especially as long as the United States continues to influence the work of the Security Council and abort any move to achieve a just peace.

## Concession, symbolism, radicalism and Resolution 799

The expulsion by Israel of more than four hundred Palestinians warrants some analysis of the motives behind the moves of all involved in the act. The government of Lehanese Prime Minister Rafiq Al Hariri did something contrary to what the preceding governments did in the past: refused the expellees entry into Lebanon. The Lebanese government realised the illegality of mass punishment and calculated correctly the international reaction to evicting people from their own country, particularly when that country is subjected to illegal occupation. By this manoeuvre, the dilemma of the exilees was brought up to unprecedented international levels, exposing Israel to global scrutiny and embarrassing the U.S., a long-time supporter of Israel's policies.

Israel is accusing the expellees of being members of Hamas, a radical religious movement responsible for attacks on Israelis. Hamas was born with the birth of the intifada, which was but one expression of the determination of the people under occupation to maintain their identity in spite of Israel's brutal oppression which resulted in hundreds of dead, wounded, detained and traumatised. The intifada, even though not producing tangible results. generated considerable sympathy for Palestinian aspirations throughout the world. The harsh realities of the Israeli occupation remain, however, a dominant trait of the lives of the increasingly frustrated Palestinians. The brutality of this occupation is beyond dispute, tsrael's failure to subdue the intifada is leading to application of harsher measures and complete disregard of human

Professor Adeed Dawisha, member of the Council on Foreign Relations in the U.S., observed that "no cause or issue has so dominated the political and psychological landscape of the Arah World since World War Il as has the issue of Palestinian

Palestinians started realising since the 1970s that their future aspirations for a homeland and

self-determination require great efforts and even greater sacrifices. Organised movements, including Hamas, started surfacing in the occupied territories. As hope is intrinsically linked to success. Hamas appeared to offer such hope to the people, leading to its domination in many parts of the occupied territories and claiming membership from the educated, professional intelligentsia. The perception of success contributes greatly to the persistence and eventual growth of such movements, and their domination over issues and resolutions affecting the overall composition of Palestinian life.

Israel still suffers from its "superiority complex" over the Arabs. Its policy remains to concentrate on an eternal Arab military inferiority whereby it keeps dictating its own terms to its neighbours. This is rather shortsighted as Israel's very survival is

no longer an issue, particularly after Iraq's firepower has diminished significantly after the war. tt rather needs to focus on its future relationship with its Arab neighbours and make this its long-term policy. If Israel is to remain a member of countries of the Middle East, it needs to come to better terms with its neighbours who never chose to have it at their borders in the first place. Islamic resurgence started after

the humiliating defeat of the Arabs by Israel in the June war. This was however transformed into radical Islam, with its influence cutting across the boundaries of Arab states, leaving a strong impact on people in the area. The whole concept of radicalism is to identify and follow a course of action that would undermine and offset the status

The exilees' dilemma, and their very handling of it, is creating a

new opportunity and a new threat. The results of the Gulf war and the apparent unwilling-ness of the United States to treat the Palestinian problem with the same urgency and resolve it applied to the occupation of Kuwait has led the Palestinians in general and the expellees in particular to question the credibility of the U.S. as an bonest broker and a catalyst for peace and justice in the Middle East. They insist that the declarations and resolutions of the Security Council must be fully enforced, as it happened in the case of Iraq. It is about time the U.S. refrained from treating Israel as a "spoiled child" at the expense of the Palestinians and

Whether we agree with Hamas

Arabs. Many signs of disapproval

As they are winning international support, they are not falling in the trap of raising their demands. They are adhering to the demand that U.N. Security Council Resolution 799 he totally im-The expellees are maximising

tives and adhering to their limited agenda. They are capitalising on the international disapproval of the Israeli action, making effective use of the media coverage. They are appealing to the very conscience of the international community, further isolating Israel in this particular incident. The role of the United Nations

their chances of short-term suc-

cesses by minimising their objec-

the U.S. monopoly over the Security Council are surfacing, as a safeguard of the contemporwith Russia and France as examary status quo, humanity and justice should not appear threatened by the double stanor not, the expellees proved dards policy of the very country

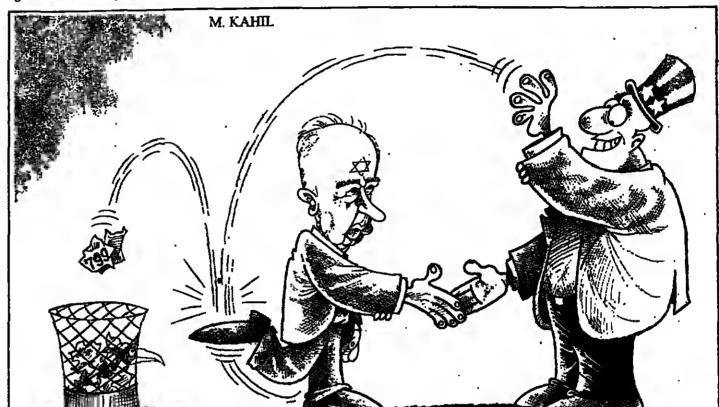
smart in not escalating their that invigorated its role during goals, pushing them out of reach. the Gulf crisis, the U.S. The expellees' cause is offering America the chance to choose between lip service and action, between justice and injustice, between fairness and bias and between honesty and double principles.

The U.S. is making a mistake by committing itself to the Israeli compromise of returning immediately 100 deportees, with the rest repatriated before the close of this year. This commitment restricts the U.S.'s room to manoeuvre and explore further methods to resolve the conflict. If compromise were favoured by the U.S. it should not concentrate on numbers of expellees re-turned, but rather on how to avoid further damage to Israeli reputation and limit the issuance of more resolutions condemning Israel and imposing sanctions.

Common ground needs to be found and constructed. The Israelis and the expellees need to show success and appear closest to attaining each one's goals. For an elegant solution, each side needs to show it has gained!

Ironically, the Israelis are entrapped in a situation they have brought upon themselves. They are ill-handling the negotiations. They are adopting positional bar-gaining and adhering to previous. stands whereby they send signals to the expellees that unless they accept the Israeli offer their negotiating position will be hardened.

But this time, this tactic is not working for Israel. Resolution 799 already condemns it. The world appears intent on maintaining the credibility of the U.N.
The international community does not want to lose the opportunity of reaching a solution through the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations. This time it is Israel in the "suspect" box, the Palestinians on the "witness" stand, the U.N. in the "judge" chair, the people of this free world on the jury" panel and the U.S. is still trying to protect the guilty defendant. Israel finally brought itself, through grave miscalculation and through an irony of fate, to the court of justice!



## Preoccupied elsewhere, U.N. operation moving slowly

By Tom Coben The Associated Press

MAPUTO, Mozambique - Six weeks after the Security Council approved it, the U.N. operation m Mozambique has barely started its task of getting a destitute, war ravaged nation ready for elections.

Fewer than 100 of the 7,500 people involved had arrived by the end of January and the \$332 million budget awaited approval at U.N. headquarters in New

Unless everything speeds up dramatically, it seems unlikely that elections can be organised by October, as stipulated in the 1992 ceasefire agreement that ended 16 years of civil war.

Aldo Ajello, the U.N. special representative, says the elections almost certainly will be delayed until April or May of 1994 after the rainy season, which hin-

ders transportation in rural areas. In this decaying capital, surrounded by the mud and reed shanties of war refugees, people fix the blame on a variety of targets, from U.N. bureaucratic wrangling to the destroyed inleading role in peace talks. "It's very difficult to know from the United Nations when they are in position to start."

U.N. officials agree with local leaders that events in Yugoslavia, Angola, Cambodia and Somalia have distracted U.N. attention from Mozambique. But few seem to doubt their ability to bring about Mozamhique's first multiparty elections and start the reconstruction process.

They say they will take whatever time is necessary to avoid the failures of other U.N. efforts in Yugoslavia and Angola.

There is consensus to look on Mozambique as a very important operation, "said Eric Lubin, chief adviser to Mr. Ajello. "It could be the first operation that's successful for a long time."

Civil war in Mozambique began after independence from Portugal in 1975 and pitted the Marxist government against an anti-communist rebel movement known as Renamo.

to allow multiple political parties and free elections led to the

"We are very disappointed," ceasefire signed Oct. 4 in Rome ple to every doctor. said Manfredo Di Camerana, the hy President Joaquim Chissano Political leaders, for Italian ambassador, who played a and Afonso Dulakama, the Re- mats and U.N. officials agree that decide to crack down on a

> The peace plan, negotiated with the help of Italian diplomats, the Roman Catholic Church and the United Nations, calls for creating a new army under joint control and holding elections under U.N. supervision, all within a year.

One provision gave fighters six days after the signing to report to assembly points. As January en-ded, the locations of assembly points were still being decided. "The schednle was completely inconsistent with reality,"

Mr. Ajella, who was sent by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali to oversee the programme. "I don't even take it into considera-Reality in this east African

country is mined roads, destroyed bridges, a largely illiterate population, few supplies, little housing and an economy dependent on foreign aid and food. Government statistics are grim: life expectancy of about 44 years,

60 per cent of the 15 million people impoverished, 40,600 peoPolitical leaders, foreign diplo-

both government and rebel forces must be demobilised before the election campaign begins. They cite the case of Angola. where fighting has resumed after

elections last year that ended an equally long civil war. "The mistake made in Angola is that they started the political

process before troops surrendered weapons," said Steven Bois, a U.S. navy lieutenant serving as a U.N. military observer. He had just peeled four notes from a wad of local currency to pay for the developing of film be shot on the job.

"We don't have money from the United Nations yet to pay for it," he said. "It comes out of my

Unlike the U.N. operation in

Angola, the Mozambique force will include 6,480 armed soldiers, "blue helmets," from Italy, Uru-guay and Bangladesh. Most are expected to arrive this month to patrol major transport routes, especially rail lines to landlocked neighbours such as Zimbabwe. Renamo wants all the U.N.

its weapons, lest the government weakened foe.

As in Angola, the government has transferred an undetermined number of soldiers from the army to police units. Mr. Ajello criticised the move, but said waiting for all U.N. soldiers to arrive before demobilising would be impractical.

He said months will be needed to establish assembly points with housing, clinics and feeding facilities, and get the U.N. troops in

· Finding housing and work for 50,000 government soldiers also is considered critical. There have been isolated rebellions h groups of soldiers angered by lack of pay and other complaints.

Refugees in one of the settlements outside Maputo said they knew nothing of the United Nations or elections, and only wanted to return home.

"The best thing the government can do is bring us clothes and seeds and tools so we can grow our crops again," said Percina Ubisse, who has spent five years in the settlement.

#### **LETTERS**

## May it not fall on deaf ears!

To the Editor:

If the humane cry and appeal of the international women in Jordan, regarding the 400 Palestinian exilees, as eloquently and sincerely expressed by President of Bassira Insight Karen Asfour (Jordan Times, Feb. 9, 1993), is not heeded by the U.S., Europe and the international oligarchy of the United Nations, they should really be ashamed of themselves.

Then it will be time for us to realise that what they mean by "buman rights" is intended only for them, not for the rest of the

May God bless Karen and the international women in Jordan.

Dr. Maan Abu Nowar P.O. Box 350t8,

## You can't win if you don't play

To the Editor: .

Jordan has recently bosted the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group 2 first round playing against the team from Iran. Five matches were held, with Iran's team winning all.

Let's take a moment to look at the Jordanian team's players and preparedness to be part of an international competition. Our team lacks everything that is expected of a national team. t am not blaming the individuals playing on the team, but the Jordanian Tennis Federation for the poor facilities provided for our team-We have one of the best players in the Middle East, number 1

Hani Al Ali, and his teammate Imad Abu Hamda, who are really brilliant and have great potential. The Jordanian Tennis Federation should sponsor our national team more efficiently; lack of practice and an indoor tennis court to play on are important factors in determining the outcome of the matches.

The Iranian team's arrival statement certainly came true. "We came well-prepared. We came to win," the team spokesman said. One of the Iranian players, who won against Mr. Abu Hamda, has won four international tennis awards and was a finalist at the Paris, Monte-Carlo, and other open tournaments. Can this be compared to the experience of our team, combined together?

I feel very sad about our team; I want them to be well-prepared and strong-willed to take on any team. This does not come by more criticism and regrets, but by practice and exposing our team to the outside world. Private donations to the Jordanian Tennis Federation should be made to our team. And remember, you can't win if you don't play.

> Samer Farraj, P.O. Box 5225,

## Gold-plated Kuwait rots from within

By Shyam Bhatia

up the slack.

KUWAIT CITY - The intriguing sight of a Kuwait royal squirming before his subjects is the most striking evidence that Kuwait has changed in the two years since the end of the Gulf war. The disgraced Sheikh Nawaf Al Sabah, who fled his Ministry of Defence on the day the Iraqis invaded, is being interrogated by a parliamentary committee that demands an explanation of why he and his armed forces per-

formed so abysmally. Pressed on why so many officers were on holiday on the day before the invasion, Sheikh Nawaf said it was all "compulsory and urgent leave". Asked if the military establishment should be blamed for its poor performance during the invasion, his anodyne answer was: "Each field in the country complements the rest and all aspects interact with each other. The whole of Kuwait was

the victim of a political decision." The Sheikh's case has not been helped by suggestions that his commander-in-chief fled the country in his underpants. Sheikh Nawaf was more fortunate. He had a chauffeur and a Mercedes limousine to ferry him to sanctu-

ary in Saudi Arabia. It is probably too late to rake over the coals of who didn't do what and when. Yet the inquiry

dramatises how the National Assembly has found the strength and confidence to take on the Al Sabah clan. Kuwait is not on the brink of

revolution. It is wounded but not mortally so. No one doubts the Al Sabahs, ensconced in their villas on the Mediterranean and in Kuwait City, are still the real Take the high-pitched Sheikh

Nawaf, who could have expected a court martial or enforced retirement. But the royals play by different rules. Even he was merely given a less important Cabinet joh. His cousins still hold

key portfolios.

What has changed is Kuwait's arrogant belief in its own invincibility. Business confidence and investment have dried up, further harmed by slowly emerging multi-billion pound scandals. Kuwait is pumping 1.7 million barrels of oil per day, which gives it an income of more than £100m a week. But even this is not enough to pay for the massive reconstruc-

Any other country would have to raise taxes or cut costs. Kuwait coasts along by dipping into its £35 hillion reserves. The Al Sahahs know they cannot go on subsidising the country, but investors remain reluctant to take

The main reason is the network of corruption that threatens to enguif the highest. The most serious scandal involves the London-based Kuwait Investment Office. Some of the Al Sabahs, it is widely surmised, used the country's pension fund to feather their gilded cages.

Salaried Kuwaitis are openly critical of the sheer greed of their masters. They have been mollified by generous perks, such as £8,000 wedding grants, £25 per week child allowances and one per cent mortages repayable over 20 years. There is no income tax. After the country was liberated

by the allies, the government cancelled the personal debts of every Kuwaiti and paid each citizen the lump sum equivalent of seven months' salary. Such gold-plated gestures are enough to ensure a sullen silence, but prominent officials say it will not be long before there is renewed agitation for greater democracy.

What is easily forgotten is that the country is united by fear and mutual loathing of its neighbour to the north. That is why the government is spending £7bn on Western arms as an inducement for the allies to remain involved

in the country. Many Kuwaitis realise their

with the ideas that underpin Western liberal democracies. Friends of the emir boast he (belatedly) presides over the only true democracy in the Arab World. But only 80,000 Kuwaitis have the vote. As for women, the emir has decreed they are still not In the balance book of bistory,

tiny kingdom has little affinity

the Al Sabahs will be credited for the job they have done in repairing the scars of war, although this dissipated half their pre-war re-The air is clear again and so are

the Gulf waters. Even the' dugongs seem happy. It is as if the war had never happened. Much harder to heal are the psychological wounds. Rape is commonplace. Foreign women, mostly Filipinos, Indians and Sri Lankans, tell horrific stories of brutalisation.

Thoughtful Kuwaitis argue that the post-liberation excesses represent the scars of occupation. That is why the country is experiencing unprecedented levels of juvenile delinquency. Like er parents, who prefer to keep their money abroad, young Kuwaitis no longer have a stake in their own country - The

مكنا من الأجل



## Recession, technology pressure British banks to cut number of staff

LONDON (AP) - National Westminster Bank (Natwest) said Monday it would eliminate 4,000 jobs this year, in a continuing trend of job cutting brought on by the recession and increased use of automatic tellers and other machines.

In the past two years, some 30,000 positions have been cut at Britain's four largest commercial banks, which also include Barclays, Lloyds and Midland. Analysts expect more employees to go. "It's going to continue," said Steven Thorn, a securities analyst who follows banks for the financial house of Hoare Govett. "In 1993, probably another 11,000 and in 1994 another 7,000."

The big four banks now have about 270,000 employes. Banks have been hurt by the recession and have had to set aside large sums of money to cover bad debts.

But bank workers are also the victims of rapidly expanding

Computerised data on bank customers and the widespread use of automatic teller machines have eliminated the need for many

"The reductions reflect the growing influence of technology on job levels," Natwest said Monday. The bank also might close some of its branches, a spokesman said.

Natwest said it hopes to keep layoffs to a minimum by retraining and redeploying some workers, and by seeking early retirements and voluntary resignations.

Financial	
Markets	

**Jordan Times** in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Tokyo Close Close Part 9/2/93 Part 10/2/9
Sterling Pound	1.4305 1.4300
Desische Mark	. 1.6538 1.6518
Swiss Franc	1.5320 1.5255
French Franc	5.6012 5.5868 *
Japanese Yen	121.18 121.52
European Curreny Unit	1.1766 1.1814 *
total Total STIC	

Сагтепсу	t MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
ti.S. Dellar	3.15	3.25	3.34	3,62
Sterling Pound	6.31.	5.93	5.81	5.62
Deutsche Mark	8.50	8.25	7.81	7.25
Swiss Franc	5.57	5,37	5.12	5.00
French Franc	11.50	11.37	10.50	9.37
Japanese Yen	3.12	3.18	3.18	: 3.15
European Currency Unit	9.50	9.31	9.00	8.62

Precious M	letals			Date: 10	/2/93	
Metal	USOIO2	JD/Gm <sup>3</sup>	Metat.	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	1
Cold	528.75	6.35	Silver	3.71	.080	]
21 Karat		-			<u> </u>	٦.

Date: 10/2/93

Currency	Bid .	. Offer
U:S. Dottar	0.6920	0.6940
Sterling Pound	0.9874	0.9923
Deutsche Mark	0.4184	0.4205
Swiss Franc	0.4528	0:4551
French Franc	0.1235 '	0.1241 .
Japanese Yen	0.5697	0.5725
Dutch Guilder	0.3716	0.3735
Swedish Krona	0.0931	0.0936
Italian Lira	0.0453	0.0455
Belgian Franc	0.02023	0.02033
Per 100		

Other Currencles	Dat	A 10/2/93
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahrami Dinar	1.8150	1.8290
Lebanese Lira	. 0.03642	0.03855
Saudi Riyal	0.1842	0.1850
Kawaiti Dinar	2,2300	2.2900
Qatari Riyal	U.1875	0.1886
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2150
Omani Riyal .	1.7620	1.7830
UAE Dirham	0.1875	0.1886
Greek Drachma	0.3124	0.3174
Cyprist Pound	1.3975	. 1.4188
Per 100	<del>-</del>	<del> </del>

Index.	-1	8.2/93 Close	9/2/93	Close
All-Share		194.08	. 195.86	
Banking Sector	$\neg$	r38.36	. 137.85	
Insurance Sector	$\neg$	.216.39	215.72	•
Industry Sector	$\overline{\cdot}$	269.95	275.64	<u>:</u>
Services Sector	$\overline{}$	259.62	260.60	
December 22 1997	200			

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Wednes-

One U.S. dollar	1.2684/89
CIRC CIDI COII	1.6455/65
	. 1.8540/50
	1.5220/30
•	34.04/08
• •	5.5800/50
	1523/1528 .
	120.80/85
•	7.4200/300
·	6.9825/925
	6.2900/3000
One sterling	·· \$1.4350/60

S1.4350/60 One ounce of gold \$328.75/329.25

Canadian dollar **Deutschemarks** Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns

#### **Minister says Kuwait** trying to reduce spending

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's information minister was quoted Wednesday as saying the government was trying to reduce its expenditure after it lost more than half its reserves following the 1990 Iraqi

The official Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) said the minister, Sheikh Sand Nasser Al Sahah, made his comments in an interview with the London-based Arabic magazine Al Majala.

"Kuwait lost half of its reserves after the Iraqi occupation and Kuwait's libaration war." KUNA quoted him as saying. "The oil prices are low now and we are trying to keep our share of (oil) production, and also trying to reduce the government expendi-

he said. He did not elaborate. Emotions are running high in Kuwait over revelations of suspected corruption in the management of parts of the country's foreign investment portfolio.

> AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET HOUSING BANK CENTER APPAM - SHEETSART TELEPHORE, 660170 / 663170 HARKET SRARE PRICE LIST FOR WEDENSDAY 10

11					
$\ $	COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME JD ·	CLOSING PRICE	opening Opening	PPICE
11				134 000	133 500
11	ARAB BARK	126,600	134.250	134.000	333,500
ł I	JORDAN MATICHAL BANK INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	30.415	3.050	5.070 3.70	2.700
11	THE HOUSING BANK	60.606	4.110	4.090	4.030
ŧI	THE HOUSING BARK JORDAN LUMBAIT BANK ARAR JORDAN LUVESTHENT BANK JORDAN IGLANIC BANK UNION BANK FOR SEVING 6 INVESTMENT BEIZ BLMAL SAVINGSINVESTMENT FOR HOUSING ANDAM BANK FOR INVESTMENT	13.878	2.470	4.090 2.470 4.900	2.460
H	ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	24,500	4.900	4.900	4.900
11	JORDAN 18LAMIC BANK	19, 239	4.740	4.730 4.180 5.580 1.800 2.750 3.910 2.450	4.800
"	UNION SAME FOR SEVING & INVESTMENT	39,312	4.150	4.180	4.200
11	BEIT BLMAL SAVINGE INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	26.670	5.580	5.580	5.560
11		405.643	1.800	1.800	1.760
П	Unitity gave Indocurre	2.750	2.750	2.750	2.150
11	JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	193, 350	3.920	3.910	3.840
ш	UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	5,655	2.380	2,450 3,900	2.450 3.900
11	UNIVERSAL INSURANCE TANDOUR INSURANCE & REINSURANCE HOLY LAND INSURANCE	1,575	3.500	3.500	3.500
11	DELL TON DATA INCIDENCE	21 240	3 970	4.100	3.900
11	ANAB TIPE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	3.250	3.250	3.250	3.250
11	JORDAN CHILP INSURANCE.	813	3.750	3.250	3.250
11	JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	187,762	1.840	1.860	1.870
11	IRBIO DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	3,069	1.110	1.100	1.120
H	HOLY LAND INSURANCE PHILDSLIPH INSURANCE ANAR LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE JORGARIAN ELLET INSURANCE JORGARIAN ELECTRIC FOMER INSIQ DISTRICT ELECTRICITY VEHICLES GOMERS FUDINATION ARAE INTERNATIONAL MOTELS JORGAN MATIGMAL SHIPPING LIMES MATIGHAL PORTFOLIO SECRITIES PRAL ESTATE LIMESTHENT JORGAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT JORGAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT JORGAN HITEMATIGNAL TRADING CENTER MACHIBARY EQUIP. RESTING & MAINTERNANCE UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMPROCEME STOTELS ATTARGERP CONST. MATERIAL MANUFACTURING ZUE JORGAN PROSPEATE MIMES JORGAN PROSPEATE MIMES JORGAN PROTOCLES	13.037	6.400	6.400	6.400
и	ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	1.475	5.950	5.900	5.900
H	JORDAN MATICULAL SHIPPING LINES	1,300	2.650	2.600	2.600
H	MATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	149,040	4.660	4.700	4.660
ш	PEAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	9, 326	1.790	1,780	1.770
ш	JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	27.545	0.870	1 220	1 220
ш	PETRA ENTRPRISES & EQUIPMENTS CEASING	1,220	1.230	1 500	1.220
H	MACHINARY COULD DESCRIBE CONTRACT	6.561	1.400	1.350	1.400
11	MILTON WINGLE BAST & COMMONORE HOTELS	139.561	2.400	7.400	2.310
ш	ATTAMORED COMET MATERIAL MANUFACTURING	98.050	2.500	7.480	2.500
ш	THE JORDAN CONTROL PACTORIES	103.073	2.000	2.000	1.950
ш	JORDAN PROSPHATE MINES	44.314	4.800	4,800	4,800
11	JORDAN PROSPIATE MINES JORDAN PETROLEUM REFIBARY	758,756	10.100	10,200	10.610
ш	JORDAN PETROLEUM REFIBERY MODILEN INDOSTRIES TEK LEDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL THE JORDAN WORSTED HILLS ARRA PHARMACEVITICAL MANUFACTURING JORDAN CERANIC INDUSTRIES JORDAN OLINY	65,996	3, 170	3,150	3,160
11.	THE INDUSTRIAL CONGERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	87,450	6.000	6.000	4.020
11	THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS	1,030	10,300	10.300 6.920	10.300
П	ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	53,074	6,920	6.920	6.970
11	JORDAN CERANIC INDUSTRIES	17,835	6,200	6.150	0.150
П	JORDAN GEIRY	57,279	2,590	2.600 3.960	2.690 3.920
11	THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING	77,291	3.950	34.900	
и	WANT CHEMICAL DESERVERS ANDOSINIES	2,400	24.100	24.000	1 750
11	SPINNING & WEAVING BAFIA INDUSTRIES	22,096	1 900	3.370	3.830
11					
П	JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES DAR AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT ARAB INVESTMENT & INERNATIONAL TRADE ARAB ALLMINIUM IEDUSTRY	120.800	11.950	11.900	11.820
П	ARAR INCOSTMENT & INCRNSTIQUAL TRADE	146, 199	3.480	3.500	3.500
11	ARAB ALIMINIUM TEDUSTRY	461.945	14,100	14.100	14.000
П	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	F.310	1,110	1,100 7,730 2.020	1,100
( (	GENERAL INVESTMENT	10,021	7.600	7,730	2,730
H	GENERAL INVESTMENT ARAB PAPER CONVERTING 4 TRADING JORDAN MEDICAL COMPORATION	7,545	2.020	2.020	2.000
H	JORDAN MEDICAL COMPORATION	1,830	0,690	0,680	0.690
H	JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION SATTOMAL STEEL INDUSTRY	66,770	5.800	5.800	5,800
11	MATICUAL INDUSTRIES INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES JORDAN ROCENDOL INDUSTRIES BULUPESAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	7,545 1,830 66,770 55,672 444,668 105,015	1.140	1.150	1.110
H	INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	444,668	4,300	4.330	9.750
П	JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES UNIVERSAL CHENICAL INDUSTRIES	155,014	2,9,0	2.926	3.010
II.	UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	69,433	14,200	14.200	14.100
H	JUNUAR INCUSTRIES & MATCH/JIMCD	8,076	1.350	0.650	0.650
11	JOHORN PRECAST CONCRETE INTESTPY	10,134	4 100	4 050	4 140
ΙÌ	UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES JORDAN IMPUSTRIES & HATCH/JIMCD JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE : TRUSTPY JORDAN HOOD INDUSTRIES / JUNCO HATJONAL CARLE & WIRE HARUPACTURING JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS ARAB CENTER FOR PRANCH. & CHEMICALS	766 015	9 310	9. 7/0	9. 120
t t	MACHINE CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	41.121	4.680	4.660	4.630
H	AVAR CONTRO TOO DURBY & CUTWICKIE	50.054	4.300	4.300	4,220
Ιŧ	ORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS ARAB CENTER FOR PEARH. 5 CHEMICALS JORDAN KURNIT CO. FOR MGRI, 5 POCO PROD. UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	18.717	1.990	1.950	1.940
ΙĪ	UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	379, 610	5.600	5.770	5.700
I	Parameter Proportion of the Parameter Proportion of t				-
l				_	-
H	GRAND TOTAL	5,865,184		1	
H	AACA.p. 40227 27 000 0000000 4400 0000 2 2 22722			CO Marine	-
П	NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARK	ET I	22600	D	
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#### Roundly successful: Rado's La Coupole

With its new La Coupole collection Rado may well be first in anticipating the taste for watches in the '90s. Or perhaps it recognised the preferences of today's young and young at Whatever the reason one thing is certain: After a successful launch in the pilot market Japan at the end of 1987, the round watch, covered by a domeshaped sapphire crystal, scored a break-

through on all fronts, Rado watches have a reputation as timepieces of timeless design, made of imperishable materials. La Coupole is a prime example: Free of frills all models are made as of a piece. Its gently curved dome of scratchproof sapphire crystal covers the entire top surface. The integrated crown and the elegant bracelet attachments are true attributes of design perfection that underscore the sophisticated ele-

Any combination of the subtly differentiated range of shades of dial, crystal metallisation and leather straps is a true complement of the nev vogue. Whether with a blank two-tone dial, with twelve index dots or, in the case of the latest 'Jubilé' version, with genuine diamonds, each model makes a statement of personalised style and exceptional ele-

In 1989 Rado introduces three new colour versions with subtly coordinated leather straps. The new model is with exciting mirror-like dials in magic blue, magic bronze and magic grey ideally complement the successful line and broaden the choice for style-and fashion-conscious young and young at heart.

## Bahrain receives more crude oil from Saudi Arabia since September

has been turning 100,000 barrels per day (b/d) of crude oil over to Bahrain since September, four months earlier than previously announced, an oil source said

Bahrain's finance minister said at the end of December the Saudis had agreed to increase the amount of oil handed to Bahrain to 100,000 b/d from the earlier approximate figure of 70,000 b/d

for fiscal 1993 and 1994. But the oil source said that in fact the higher figure had been delivered since September.

The money from this oil is budgeted to provide \$538 million in 1993, 35 per cent of total Bahraini government revenue.

The oil, Arab Medium, comes from the offshore Abu Safa oilfield, which lies between the two

The field was once Bahraini but in the 1950s an agreement was reached placing it in Saudi waters. Saudi Arabia ran the field while giving Bahrain 50 per cent of the net revenue. Of late, that meant 70,000 b/d.

Several years ago, the source said, the Saudis ended the policy of giving Bahrain the revenue and instead handed the crude over to

MANAMA (R) - Saudi Arabia Bahrain at the Saudi terminal of Ras Tannurah, after charging Bahrain for the cost of produc-

> This gave the Bahrainis the responsibility for marketing it, and enabled the Saudis not to include it in their OPEC production quota, since it was not considered their oil.

The government-owned Bahrain National Oil Co. (BAN-OCO) has sold the oil abroad rather than refining it locally, oil sources said.

Sources in Singapore said this week that it was delivering one million barrels of Arab Medium Abu Safa oil — to Singapore for refining at the end of the

Bahrain Petroleum Co, 60 per cent owned by Bahrain and 40 per cent by Caltex Petroleum Corp. (itself owned by Chevron Corp. and Texaco Inc.), runs a 250,000 b/d refinery in Bahrain.

But it is more efficient for it to buy Saudi crude rather than the Abu Safa oil, since it has a direct pipeline to the refinery from Dammam in Saudi Arabia. It also is better equipped to

handle Arab Light than the Arab Medium which is produced at

## **UAE** to open trade arbitration centre in April

up the Gulf region's first arbitration centre for international and local firms to settle trade disputes and avoid long and costly court

Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce President Abdullah Al Muhairby told a news conference Tuesday the centre would handle fraud cases, non-delivery of goods and other disputes such as over letters of credit and con-

"We decided to set up this centre after our courts became bogged down," he said, "Many of these disputes have been in court for 10 to 15 years.

UAE commercial sources said the Abu Dhabi Trade Arbitration Centre would open in April to relieve the court backlog and encourage Western business to the region.

Lawyers in the UAE said it courts were slow to resolve commercial disputes because of complicated procedures and a lack of

specialised judges.
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce said last July the lack of

ABU DHABI (R) - The United trade arbitration facilities was Arab Emirates (UAE) is setting hampering the business climate for Americans in the Gulf states.

Beshar Mounajjed, the cenrre's legal adviser, said each party in a dispute would appoint its own specialists, lawyers and accountants to review the case and a third arbitrator chosen by both parties would also be on the committee.

"International and local firms will have access to the centre." he told reporters.

Mr. Muhairby said the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce would have an administrative role in the centre but the decision of the Arbitration committee would be independent.

It will apply the UAE's federal commercial laws or the law of any other country as decided by the disputing parties as long as it does not contradict UAE law. Tareq Shirkal, the director of the centre iold reporters. A six-month deadline would be set for resolving any dispute, he said.

Mr. Muhairby said the UAE would enforce the centre's decisions as long as they were ratified by UAE civil courts.

## Ford's '92 record loss totals \$7.4b

DEARBORN; Michigan (R) -Ford Motor Co. said Wednesday its losses last year totalled \$7.4 billion, the biggest deficit ever recorded by an American com-

Much of the loss was related to huge charges due to required accounting changes.

The No. 2 U.S. automaker said that without the charges, which slashed \$6.9 billion off its bottom line, its net loss for the year was \$502 million. This compared with the automaker's \$2.3 billion in red ink in 1991.

"This was one of the most unusual years in our business because of the economic uncertainties around the world and the one-time items that affected our financial results," Ford Chairman Harold Poling said in a statement accompanying the results.

Ford's worldwide sales were

\$100.1 billion in 1992, up eight per cent from 1991 sales of \$88.2

Ford sold 5,764,000 cars and rucks last year, up eight per cent, or 405,600 units, from 1991. Ford's share of the total U.S. vehicle market was 24.7 per cent.

## Japan's huge trade surplus keeps yen strong

TOKYO (R) — The yen is soar-ing on market speculation that major nations will take coordinated steps to boost the Japanese currency to rein in Japan's burgeoning trade surplus, bankers and currency analysts in

> Japanese officials have denied the speculation, but it has not

> "This sort of political pressure is likely to keep driving the yen higher, at least until the end of this month when the G-7 meet. said a European bank chief corporate dealer. Traders are convinced such

policy coordination will be highon the agenda when Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Yayashi meets U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen Satur-Japan's balance of payments

surplus rose to a record \$132.60 billion in 1992 from the previous high of \$103.04 billion in 1991. Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said last month he does not ex-

surplus.
"Japan's trade surplus is too huge to ignore, and means that

the supply/demand balance is already favouring the yen," said Seiichi Saito, chief dealer at Hokkaido Takushoku Bank.

Economie Planning Agency (EPA) Minister Hajime Funada said Wednesday guiding the yen higher would be only one option to correct Japan's trade surplus.

The dollar fell to 120.68 yen and sterling to 173 yen in Tokyo morning trade, compared with New York's Tuesday closes of 121.15/20 yen and 173.34 yen, respectively. The mark, however, firmed to 73.00 yen from 72.27 The yen has turned course to

bullish, not only against the dollar but also against European currencies," said Tatsuya Ishii, manager at Credit European currencies," said Tatsuya Ishii, manager at Credit Commercial de France in Tokyo. Some dealers said the slow

pace of Japan's economic recovery may cool off interest in buying yen, but others argued European nations are in worse

recovering country in the world, but European economies look very fragile," said a Japanese

bank manager.
The Bundesbank's latest interest rate cuts, and expectations of further credit easing by Germany and other European nations will also be favourable for the yen, dealers said.

"As the French elections coming up and the European rate mechanism (ERM) still looks shaky, investors do not want to take risks by investing in Europe," said a fund manager at a major Japanese life insurance

Technical views also favoured the yen. The dollar has formed a typical head and shoulders pattern with 126.21 yen as a top, technical analysts said.

"The pattern was beautifully formed like we could only see once a year, and I am sure overseas traders, who mostly trade on technical factors, would not miss the opportunity ( to buy the yen)," said a currency analyst at another life insurance firm.

"The yen may not jump drastically to its historical high but it is only a matter of time before it through 120 ven (to t dollar)," said Takeshi Furuhara, chief dealer at Nippon Trust

## Uganda proposes OPEC-style coffee alliance

KAMPALA (R) - Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni urged the world's coffee producers Wednesday to form an. OPEC-style alliance to curb output, drain a glut in supplies and push up depressed prices.

"Producers should try and form a cartel. This is the only way in which we can control production and belp raise prices," Mr. Museveni told reporters.

He said be had spoken to International Coffee Organisation (ICO) member states but that his proposal, which has often been made by others in the past, had not won much support.

"I have talked to countries such as Brazil and Colombia. Everyone seems to be interested but there isn't enough energy around the world to push the idea through," he said.

Coffee experts said the forma-

tion of such a body, which would operate in a manner similar to the Organisation of Petroleum Ex-

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not feasible. "It would be difficult if not impossible to police such a

mechanism," one local coffee ex-

pert told Reuters. Uganda has suffered severely since the international coffee agreement collapsed in July 1989 and quotas were suspended, leading to a glut and slumping prices. Uganda relies on robusta coffee for more than 95 per cent of

its export income. In the past four years, Uganda's balance of payments position

porting Countries (OPEC), was had worsened by 50 per cent due to the price drop, economists say. The slump in coffee prices has also undermined Uganda's ability to service its \$1.8 billion foreign

> "We have been badly affected by the drop in coffee prices. But I believe we'll survive. Uganda was here long before coffee was intro-duced," Mr. Museveni said at his residence.

"It would be good to have the quota system back. But a cartel system would even be better for

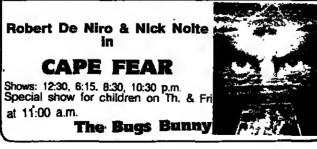




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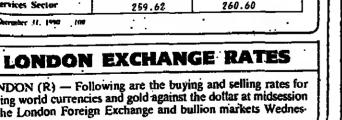


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## Sporadic clashes continue in Bosnia

BELGRADE (R) — Fighting over their torturously-negotiated flared in isolated pockets across the war zones of Bosnia and Croatia Wednesday as the United States looked set to commit ground troops for the first time to aid peace efforts.

In Washington, a Clinton administration official said sending U.S. ground troops to Bosnia to help eoforce a peace agreement was part of new U.S. initiative likely to be announced formally this week.

The official, who declined to be camed, said the American troops would go as part of a United Nations or North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) peacekeeping force once the Serbs, Croats and Muslims agree

President Bill Clinton is working on a peace initiative that would include the use of troops, tighter sanctions against the Serbs, humanitarian aid and the appointment of a special envoy to help reach a ceasefire accord, the official said.

Yugoslav peace negotiator Lord Owen dismissed suggestions that he might resign if Mr. Clinton appointed his own special envoy, telling British Broadcasting Corporation Radio: "I don't think there is any problem with

that at all." Lord Owen and fellow mediator Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state in the last Democratic administration before Mr. Clinton's inauguration last month, have met resistance in Washington

U.S.

peace formula to divide Bosnia into 10 semi-autonomous pro-

Lord Owen said on late night U.S. television that around 25,000 troops would be needed to implement a peace plan and said the U.S. should send about 5,000

Currently there are 7.500 peacekeepers io Bosnia, the bulk of them from Britain and France. Only Bosnia's Croats have

accepted the three-part package, which has been rejected by Muslims as rewarding Serb aggression and opposed by the Serbs on the grounds of its territorial divisions. The war zones of Bosnia and

neighbouring Croatia, where Croat troops are fighting rebel Serbs holding the enclave of Krajina, were largely quiet during the night and early Wednesday.

In eastern Bosnia, clashes were reported between Muslims and Serbs in several areas close to the Serbian border with heavy shellng of Muslim-held towns and

villages.

Bosnian radio said 54 people were killed and 109 wounded by artillery attacks on the town of Srebrenica and the nearby out-

post of Cerska. The capital Sarajevo, where 380,000 people have been under siege since civil war over Bosnia's declaration of independence erupted 10 months ago, was quiet during the morning with only sniper fire reported in the centre and Novo Sarajevo suburb.

U.N. mediators met with Serb and Muslim representatives for a second day at the airport, which is being used by relief flights to bring in food and medicine, in a bid to broker a ceasefire while electricity and water service re-

A French photographer working for the Sygma Photo Agency was wounded Tuesday by a sniper bullet that hit him in the throat. officials said.

pairs are carried out around the

The photographer, Antoine Gyori, was treated by U.N. doctors after being shot while driving in Sarajevo, said U.N. spokesman Maj. Jose Gallegos.
"He's out of danger," Gallegos

said. "He was very lucky."

Sygma editor-in-chief Claude Thierset said in Pairs that Gyori was driving with another French photographer when he was hit.

The bullet came in from the right side, passed through the jacket of his passenger and hit him in the throat," Mr. Thierset

Fighting resumed in several areas on the Krajina borders Wednesday, the Belgrade-based news agency Tanjug reported.

It said there were artillery exchanges along a broad front east and south of the port of Zadar established after Croatian forces drove into Serb-beld areas on Jan. 22 and seized a string of strategie targets. It quoted Krajina Serb forces

as saying that in one clash 16 members of a 25-man Croatian

patrol had been killed.

Meanwhile, anxious to return from a post-cold war vacation. NATO awaits a call from the United Nations to enter the conflict in former Yugoslavia.

The alliance has drawn up military plans for everything from safe havens for war victims, requiring thousands of troops, to enforcement of a no-fly zone, requiriog about 100 planes.

But it has not received the go ahead it needs from the U.N. Security Council to put any mea-

sures into effect.
NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner has said the alliance might have to use military force in Bosnia.

If and whee it does get the U.N. nod, the 16 nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) will be ready. With instructions from U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, the alliance has drawn up a variety of contingency plans.

At the top of the list are measures for enforcing a no-fly-zone over Bosnia. The U.N. Security Council imposed an edict last October to clear the skies of military flights by Serbs. But no enforcement measures were

NATO's policing options include tightening enforcement at airports, using Western planes to keep the Bosnian Serbs grounded or escort them out of the zone; damaging airfields; or shooting down warplanes violating the ban.



Lord David Owen (left), co-chairman of the international conference on Bosnia, appears on the Phil Donahue Show to discuss the proposed mapping of Bosnia along ethnic lines. Donahue is centre and Dave Marash of the Nightline television programme is right (AFP photo)

#### France to help Hanoi with embargo

HANOI (R) - Vietnam has won an important promise of more French financial aid and help in ending a U.S. embargo, but was also given a lecture by French President François Mitterrand on democracy and respect for human

rights.
Mr. Mitterrand, the first Western head of state to visit Vietnam since the Vietnam War, said at an official bangoet in Hanoi Tuesday night that France wanted to open a new chapter with its for-

mer Indochinese colony.

He said France would double its 1992 aid to Vietnam this year and indicated it would step up international efforts to bring an

end to the U.S. embargo. Mr. Mitterrand praised freemarket reforms that have opened Commonist Vietnam's economy to the outside world, but said the rare peace, stability and growth the country now enjoyed paved the way for greater civil liberties. "The bipolar division of the

world is dead. The cold war has ended," he said. "Freedom that bas long been oppressed is trying become a universal requirement, with its inseparable companion economie development.

Mr. Mitterrand's comments were contained in a 25-minute speech at the dinner hosted by Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh, a general who fought against French colonial forces as young revolutionary.

Mr. Mitterrand beld talks with Mr. Anh and Communist Party General-Secretary Do Muoi after arriving in Hanoi Tuesday. On Wednesday he was due to

meet Pham Van Dong, a former prime mioister and contemporary of late President Ho Chi Minh. Mr. Dong, now 86 and nearly blind, was held by the French on Poulo Condore Prison Island

from 1929 until 1936. Mr. Mitterrand spoke of a sometimes painful past, when France ruled Vietnam for nearly a century until 1954.

"I am here to close a chapter. and even more so, to open another, I believe there remains a real affinity between our peoples, which wants only to blossom" he

Mr. Mitterrand was due to fly

Wednesday to Dien Bien Phu. near the Laotian border, where forces led by General Vo Nguyen Giap defeated a French army onit in 1954, and ended colonial rule.

Gen. Giap, now white-haired and a retired defence minister, sat on Mr. Mitterrand's left at the banquet.

Mr. Mitterrand said Paris would double aid to Hanoi in 1993, but gave no details. France gave Vietnam \$36 million in 1992. France would also help Viet-

nam gain access to badly-needed technology and to technical and financial assistance, and would push for an end to the embargo imposed by Washington on Hanoi in 1964, he said.

The United States extended those sanctions to all of Vietnam in 1975 when Hanoi's forces defeated the U.S.-backed South Vietnamese government and reuni-

fied the country. Washington also bans the transfer to Vietnam of much high technology — made in the United States and elsewhere — and blocks World Bank and International Monetary Fund loans to

#### "Everything I have built up over the last 20 years has slowly been stolen," Mr. Musch, 40. told reporters. He added he could no longer obtain household insurance because he was considered a bad risk. "I think perhaps I

COLUMN

German burgled 21

JOHANNESBURG (R) -- Ger-

man Arnold Musch believes he

could be the world's most burgled

man -his home has been robbed

for the 21st time in 12 years.

should move to Pretoria Central

(prison). I would probably be safer there," he said.

times in S. Africa

#### Rod Steiger wife celebrate birth of baby

LOS ANGELES (R) -Academy Award winning actor Rod Steiger's wife has given birth to a son, his poblicist said. Paula Steiger, 32, gave birth to six-pound, seven-ounce (2.9kg) Michael Winstoo Steiger, at San-ta Monica Hospital. It was 68year-old Steiger's second child. He is the father of London-based opera star Anna Steiger, 33, whose mother is actress Claire Bloom. The actor's publicist said the baby had been named in bonour of renaissance paioter Michaelangelo, and Sir Winston Churchill, Britain's World War II leader. Steiger won an Oscar for the 1967 film. In The Heat Of The Night.

#### Britain to sell Greenham Common

LONDON (R) — Greenham Common Air Force Base, Britain's most potent symbol for anti-nuclear protesters, is to be sold, the government announced. It said open space on the base, built on a public common, would be preserved as a park. Buildings on the base would be allocated for the benefit of the local community". Cruise missiles from the United States were based at-Greenham Common, west of London, from 1983, Their arrival made the base a focus for antinuclear domonstrators. Women from all over Europe joined the peace camp that grew up near the wire ringing the base. There were until the collapse of communism caused the withdrawal of the missiles and U.S. Air Force person-

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#### Druids may win access to Stonehenge

LONDON (R) - Druids may be allowed to celebrate the wioter solstice at Sronebeoge this December for the first time io nearly three years, authorities who cootroi the ancient site said. English Heritage said it was considering allowing access to the giant stone circle, which has fascinated tourists for centuries and been used for ecremonies by religious groups. Restrictions on access introduced in 1988 to prevent huge convoys of travellers descending on Stonehenge particularly on the summer solstice. The ban, which has provoked violent confrootations between police and travellers io recent years, also hit the Druids, an ancient religious sect which regards Stonehenge as a holy place.

#### Meteorite took 61 million years

TOKYO (R) — A meteorite that fell on a house in western Japan may have travelled through space for 61 million years, a research spokesman said Wednesday. The 6.5-kg (14-lb), gourd-shaped meteorite is probably about 4.4 billion-years-old, the spokesman for the natural Science Museum in Tokyo said. The meteorite crashed through the roof, ceiling and floor of a company executive's house in Mihonoseki, Shimane Prefecture, on Dec. 10. Nobody was hurt. Measuring 24 cm (10 ins) long, 14 cm (six ins) wide and 10 cm (four ins) thick, the meteor emits a rare radioactive substance called Scandium 44 and is packed with small stones the spokesman said. He added that its journey through space was the second longest on record. The oldest meteorite, which landed in the Antarctic in 1974, its

#### Horse manure may save world from sewage

LONDON (R) - Steaming horse that thrives on sludge.

#### **WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### Yeltsin to hold talks with rival

MOSCOW (R) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin will meet his main conservative rival Ruslan Khasbulatov Thursday to try and resolve the power struggle between the two men. Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman said Wednesday that constitutional court Chairman Valery Zorkin would also be present at the meeting, in the Kremlin. Mr. Zorkin has sought to mediate in the power struggle between Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Khasbulatov, chairman of the Russian parliament, which has hamstrung economic reform. "In the president's words, the meeting will be about political ways to overcome the state crisis, questions concerning a referendum formula, tensions between different branches of power and the search for better interaction between the highest echelons of state power," the spokesman said.

#### Angola rebels postpone peace talks

LUANDA, Angola (AP) - The government appealed Tuesday for U.S. diplomatic recognition, as UNITA rebels pulled out of peace talks scheduled for this week and hopes for a quick ceasefire in Angola's reignited civil war dimmed. Rebel leader lonas Savimbi asked for a week's delay, saying fierce fighting io central Angola blocked UNITA negotiators from crossing the front lines to reach the talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, a U.N. official said. UNITA returned to the battlefield on Oct. 31 after losing elections held under a 1991 peace plan that ended Angola's devastating, 16-year civil war.

#### Zaire MPs refuse to replace premier

KINSHASA (R) - Zaire's transitional parliament has rejected President Mobutu Sese Seko's order to pick a new prime minister, setting the stage for further confrontation in the crisis-bound central African country. Delegates reported a meeting of the opposition-dominated High Council of the Republic (HCR) said Mr. Mobutu's demand that they replace his arch-enemy Etienne Tshisekedi as premier was outside his jurisdiction under rules for multi-party reforms laid down last year by a pro-democracy conference. "The president's request was declared unaccept able," HCR member Lucien Tshimpumpu told Reuters after the day-long session. Mr. Mobutu signed an order Saturday firing Mr. Tshisekedi, blaming him for army riots in late January in which several hundred people were killed. The strongarm president, who has ruled Zaire with an iron hand for 28 years, has threatened to "take matters into his own hands" if the HCR fails to name an alternative candidate.

#### **Dutch parliament sanctions mercy killing**

THE HAGUE (AP) - The Netberlands adopted the most liberal euthanasia guidelines in Europe after years of keeping the widely accepted practice in legal limbo. Although the legislation approved by parliament stops short of legalisation, it guarantees physicians immunity from prosecution if they follow strict guidelines for mercy killing. The compromise was an attempt to placate right-to-lifers opposed to repealing the ban on euthanasia entirely, while giving legal protection to physicians performing the thousands of mercy killing believed to occur yearly. Euthanasia is still punishable by up to 12 years in prison. Many Dutch view euthanasia as a generally humane practice, but conservative religious groups warned the nation is steadily losing respect for

#### Paper vows to see British queen in court

LONDON (AP) - The Sun newspaper has defied a legal deadline set by Queen Elizabeth II and said it would defend in court its scoop of her annual Christmas speech. A Buckingham Palace spokesman confirmed late Tuesday that the queen would press ahead with a lawsuit against the tabloid. The queen's lawyer. Sir Matthew Farrer, received an unsatisfactory response from the Sun at midday, the unidenlified spokesman said, therefore "the writ will be issued and the Sun has been informed." The queen's lawyers wrote last week to the Sun demanding damages and costs from the newspaper for publishing a leaked text of her address two days before it was broadcast. They warned that the matter would proceed to court unless a settlement was agreed within seven days. Daniel Taylor, company lawyer for News Group Newspapers, had said earlier in the day that the threat of legal action seemed out of proportion,

#### Valentine bomber says It with roses

BANGKOK (R) - Police said a bomb hidden in a box of Valentine's Day red roses exploded at a Bangkok branch post office Wednesday, killing a postman and injuring five other people. They said the bomb exploded when the official franked the box containing the roses. The post office was cordoned off as police searched amongst red roses and bloodstains for more bombs. No one bas claimed responsibility for the explosion.

#### Satellite launched from B-52 bomber

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) - A rocket-borne satellite to monitor Brazil's fragile rain forests sped into orbit after being launched from the wing of a flying B-52 bomber. "Very good shooting by the Pegasus team," David Thompson, president of Orbital Sciences Corp, the maker of the rocket, told reporters soon after the B-52 carried it to a release point 43,000 feet (13,100 metres) above the Earth.

#### Azeris. Armenians report battles in Karabakh

MOSCOW (R) - Fierce fighting between Azeris and Armenians raged in the disputed Cancasian territory of Nagorno-Karabakh Tuesday and many people were

killed, both sides reported.

The Azeri Defence Ministry, quoted by ITAR-TASS News Agency, said its forces bad contained a major Armeoian offensive on all fronts in northern Nagomo-Karabakb.

holding on to four of seveo villages they captured last Friday and Saturday, it said. Armenian armour and troops also attacked near the town of

Agdam, just east of the enclave, after a big artillery bombard-ment. Both sides suffered heavy casualties in fierce fighting, the Azeris said. Armenian military headquar-

quoted by local agencies and Radio Yerevan, said Armenian forces were still advancing in the territory. It said Azeri forces were fleeing. More than 2,500 people have

In Geneva, the leaders of Armenia's and Azerbaijan's religious communities Tuesday appealed for peace in the Caucasian conflict after a three-day meeting in Switzerland.

## everywhere to express itself. "Respect for human rights has

But the Armemans were still

ters in Nagorno-Karabakh,

been killed in five years of fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh, populated by Armenians but put under Azeri control by the Kremlin in 1923.

#### Cambodia town hit before Mitterrand visit PHNOM PENH (R) - Rampag- in Paris in October 1991. ing gunmen on motorcycles brought the Cambodian war back

to long-peaceful Siem Reap Wednesday, two days before French President Francois Mitterrand visits the northwestern town. Two Cambodians were killed

and at least 10 people were wounded in the 's near the company be f French Mr. Mit. ·ue to visit-Siem Reap Friday as part of a 24-bour visit to ' abodia, a

French cc. 1953. The French emission. . 'ere would be no chaoge to his chedule. "This is not a serious incident, the visit wil go ahead," an embassy official told Reuters.

"An attack of this size in this location is serious," Lieutenant-Colonel Diek Palk, military spokesman for the U.N. peacekceping operation, said ear-

The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) says it has not identified which armed faction was responsible for the attack. But Prime Minister Hun Sen blamed the Khmer Rouge guerrillas, who are refusing to implement peace accords signed

· A Khmer Rouge radio broadcast condemned Mr. Mitterrand's visit to Cambodia - the first by a Western bead of state since French President Charles De Gaulle in 1966 — saying violated international law and

was aimed at helping Vietnam's "ongoing invasion" of Cambodia. Vietnam invaded Cambodia in December 1978 to end three and a half years of revolotionary rule by the Khmer Rouge which killed a million people. Hanoi installed a sympathetic government but says all its troops withdrew in

The Khmer Rouge insists that Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia and has cited this as one reason for not contesting U.N.-sponsored elections sche-

duled for May 23-25. The government and two former guerrilla factions Wednesday put pressure oo the Khmer Rouge to abide by the peace accords by agreeing a ban on genustone exports, the group's

main source of revenue. A moratorium was agreed at a meeting of the all-faction Supreme National Council in Phnom Penh and was to be put in place by Feb. 28, said UNTAC spokes-

man Eric Falt. At the same meeting, UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi announced that campaigning for the election would start on April 7.

Mr. Akashi admitted that UN-TAC has not yet been able to create a neutral political environment throughout the country. There have been frequent acts of political violence in recent months, including assassinations of politicians opposed to the governmeot and bombings of party offices.

Among the wounded in the attack at Siem Reap was a 27year-old Portuguese tour group leader, Cesar De Paco, who was hit by a stray rifle bullet in his hotel room.

Mr. De Paco, from the Azores Islands, needed eight stitches to his head but was well enough to travel back to Phnom Penb.

The UNTAC spokesman said 30 attackers wearing a mixture of factional uniforms, entered the town on motorcycles at around I.30 a.m., firing indiscriminately. They used automatic rifles, grenades and rocket-propelled grenades.

An Australian army signaller fired 12 shots back at the attack-

## U.S. armed services propose sharp cuts

WASHINGTON (R) - The U.S. Armed Forces have proposed sharp cuts in planes, ships and weapons to reduce the 1994 military budget by up to \$10.8 billion, defence officials said

The officials, who asked not to be identified, said the navy wanted to cancel the overhaul of the aircraft carrier Forrestal and to retire it along with about 10 other warships next year.

They said the air force offered

to stop buying F-16 fighters, slow production of the C-17 cargo jet and eliminate two active fighter wings and part of a reserve wing totalling over 150 planes. The cuts were sought last week by Defence Secretary Les Aspio

and submitted by the services Monday as part of a plan by President Bill Clinton to cut \$60 billion from defence spending over the next five years. But the officials confirmed some details of the cuts reported by the New York Times, includ-

and several other programmes and to slow some 25 weapons programmes. They could not confirm the Times report that the air force had also proposed cancelling a \$27 million communications

ing the army's offer to cancel the

advanced Tow anti-tark missile

satellite programme. The budget cuts are part of a Clinton plan to cut the U.S. Armed Forces from their current total of 1.8 million troops to 1.4 million by 1997. U.S. troop strength in Europe would be cut from 180,000 to 100,000.

the navy to cut \$3 billion from the \$82 billion budget proposed by former President George Bush for fiscat 1994.

The air force was ordered to cut \$2.8 billion from its \$81.4 billion total proposed by Mr. Bush and the army was told to remove \$2.5 billion from its \$64.1 billion 1994 budget. The Strategic Defence Initia-

tive (SDI) anti-missile research programme, commonly known as Star Wars, was told to slash \$2.5 billion. The New York Times reported

Wednesday that Colin Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, wants to leave office a few months before the end of his term, in part because he does not want to defend military budget cuts he feels are too large. Quoting close associates of

General Powell's, the paper said had told Mr. Aspin of his desire to leave his post early, and had also informed former Defence Secretary Dick Chency several months ago of his wishes. The report said Gen. Powell wanted to give his successor more

time to win influence this summer had been reelected.

in shaping the Pentagon's budget, and that the general also told Mr. Chency he would not remain for a third two-year term as chairman even if President George Bush The New York Times said friends and associates of Gen. Powell said his desire for early

retirement was only reinforced by

his series of public clashes with

President Bill Clinton over en-

Mr. Aspin last week ordered ding the ban on gays in the navy to cut \$3 billion from the military and budget cuts for the armed forces.

"There's no question Colin will be confronted repeatedly with having to carry out new policy guidance that may be at odds with his previous public positions," the newspaper quoted one associate as saving. But another said, "this has

nothing to do with the gays issue. This is a personal thing that he decided last year. He's told Aspin .. if it's convenient with them, he'd rather leave in late spring or early summer. Mr. Aspin is reportedly considering Gen. Powell's request

but has yet to issue a recommendation to Mr. Clinton on how loog Gen. Powell, 55, should stay on. Friends and associates of Gen. Powell told the newspaper there was no personal rancour between the general and either Mr. Clinton or Mr. Aspin.

President Clinton Tuesday elevated the director of drug control to cabinet level but slashed dozens of jobs from the agency he

In reducing the four-year-old Office of National Drug Control Policy from 146 employees to 25, the White House charged the office had become a "dumping ground for political appointees under former President George

Democratic members of Congress were heartened that Mr. Clinton had raised the drug control director to cabinet status. Representative Charles

Rangel, a New York Democrat who is chairman of the House Narcotics Committee, said the decision will advance the drug abuse policy "by leaps and

"One of the greatest failings of the drug czar's office under former President Bush was that it became a way station for political and patronage employees," Mr. Rangel said.

In addition, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph Biden said Mr. Clinton sent a "strong signal today that he is serious about attacking this natioo's drug crisis." President Clinton, saying "government must do more and make

do with less," also announced Tuesday he will cut 350 White House staff jobs. Mr. Clinton said his move, which officials estimate will save \$10 million a year, will comply with a campaign promise to reduce the White House staff by 25 per cent and will lead to a "lean-

"This is one of the few times this century that any president has actually shrunk the size of the White House staff," Mr. Clinton told reporters during an appearance in the White House press

er, more effective government."

He said other departments and agencies would be asked to make some cuts as well as a sign to the American people that he is se-rious about reducing the cost of government and cutting back on a deficit that reached a record \$300 billion last year.

# to reach earth

believed to have taken 92 million years to reach Earth.

manore may soon help purget the world of its malodorous mounds of scwage sludge. The manure is home to a newly identified, heat-loving bacteria

#### reminds N. Korea of nuclear obligations WASHINGTON (Agencies) The U.S. State Department, in a subdued response to recent strong words from North Korea, said it was disappointed in North Korea's refusal to allow inspectors full access to its nuclear sites. Spokesman Richard Boucher said he had no specific reaction to

recent warnings from Pyongyang

of possible countermeasures if

the United States and other na-

uons exert too much pressure or

the nuclear issue. But he repe-

ated a call for North Korean

compliance to nuclear treaty

obligations.
U.S. officials said there were

no plans to cancel the U.S.-South

Korea joiot military exercises,

Team Spirit. The exercises were

skipped last year in an apparent

effort to encourage North-South

dialogue, and North Korca has

demanded that they be cancelled

again this year.
"We welcome North Korea's

past cooperation with the IAEA

(International Atomic Energy

Agency)," Mr. Boucher said. "However, the U.S. and others

are obviously concerned that

North Korea has denied the

IAEA access to certain sites at its

The North, which denies that it

is developing a nuclear arms

capability, argued that Yong-

dyon, north of Pyongyang, was

not included in the original IAEA

other Western nations have re-

fased to provide any economic

assistance to North Korea until

"North Korea has an obliga-

tion under the non proliferation

treaty and under their safeguards

agreement, which they signed with the IAEA, 10 permit the

inspections and, therefore, they

should proceed irrespective of other things," Mr. Boucher said.

Meanwhile a group of Russian nuclear scientists was prevented

at the last moment from boarding

a plane to North Korea to work

on developing weapons last Octo-

ber, ITAR-TASS News Agency

heighten Western fears that dis-

enchanted, low-paid Russian sci-

entists might be tempted to sell

their secrets to the highest Third

The agency Tuesday quoted a

Security Ministry official in

Chelyabinsk, a major industry

centre in the Urals where Soviet

nuclear weapons were built, as

saying the group was stopped

from boarding a flight from Mos-

The official, Valery Tretyakov,

said they were "engineering and

technical workers involved with

the problem of strategic rocket

He added: "As far as we have

been able to work out, this whole

action was conducted deliberately

by the (North) Korean side to

take advantage of Russian scien-

tific potential to modernise its

rocket armaments in the shortest

Two quite senior North Korean

diplomats bad been expelled

from Moscow within 24 hours of

World bidder.

cow in October.

possible time."

the incident, he said.

Its report seemed certain to

the ouclear issue is settled.

The United States, Japan and

inspection list.

Yongdyon nuclear complex."